

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

WILL THERE BE WAR BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES?

GRAVE complications between this country and Spain are liable to arise from the *Competitor* filibustering incident. Five of the men recently captured with that schooner while trying to make a landing on the Cuban shore have been condemned to death under court-martial at Havana. Two of these men, Alfredo Laborde, commander of the expedition, and Orna Milton, of Kansas, are native Americans. William Kinlea is described as an Englishman who has been naturalized in the United States. The other two condemned men, Elias Bedia and Theodore Maza, are both Cubans. A letter from T. T. Stockton, general manager of the *Florida Times-Union*, to Secretary Olney, declares that Milton was a regular accredited newspaper correspondent of that paper.

The *Competitor* sailed from Key West on the night of April 20 with about thirty on board, mostly Cubans. She was loaded with arms and ammunition for the Cuban insurgents. A few days later she was captured by the Spanish gunboat *Mesagera*, near Berracos, on the northern coast of the province of Pinar del Rio. A number of the men from the schooner escaped on shore, several were shot in making the capture, and the rest were taken to Havana for trial. The trial opened May 8, and on the following day it was given out that five men, including the three Americans, have been condemned to death. The present complications with Spain are brought out in the following press dispatch from Washington on May 9:

"In all cases of the arrest of American citizens for alleged complicity in the Cuban insurrection the United States Government has insisted on civil trials for those who were not captured in the act of using arms against the Spanish forces, practically conceding, however, that those bearing and using arms might be tried by military courts. This construction complicates matters in the present instance, as Milton, Laborde, and Kinlea are alleged to have been captured with arms in their hands. Secretary Olney had a long interview with the President on the subject this morn-

ing, and on his return to the State Department sent telegrams to Madrid and Havana.

"It is now pretty well understood that the friendly offices of the State Department being exerted in behalf of Orna Milton, of Kansas, sentenced by court-martial to be shot in Cuba, are limited to the complaint that the decision was reached in a summary manner, without giving any opportunity for defense, and too hastily to examine into all the circumstances of the case. The effort now being made at Madrid and Havana is therefore to be in the line of securing a delay of execution for a sufficient time to permit such an investigation of the *Competitor* incident as is demanded in the interests of humanity. It is not thought that any attempt will be made to secure a civil trial for Milton or any of his associates who may be found to be *bona-fide* American citizens, the treaty under which such transfers of jurisdiction have been hitherto made appearing to have no bearing in the present instance. The first article of the protocol between the United States and Spain, signed January 12, 1877, concerning judicial procedure, provides as follows:

"No citizen of the United States residing in Spain, her adjacent islands or her ultra-marine possessions, charged with acts of sedition, treason, or conspiracy against the institutions, the public security, the integrity of the territory or against the supreme Government, or any other crime whatsoever, shall be subject to trial by any exceptional tribunal, but exclusively by the ordinary jurisdiction, except in the case of being captured with arms in hand."

"Under this article many Americans resident in Cuba have in the last year of their cases transferred to civil courts through the intervention of Consul-General Williams, but there does not appear to be the slightest ground for claiming Orna Milton to be a 'resident' of Cuba, and the article can not, therefore, be made to apply to him.

"The same protocol, however, which was negotiated by Caleb Cushing, further provides that those taken with arms in hand as excepted in the article quoted shall be tried by ordinary council of war, shall have counsel to defend them, and the right to compel the attendance of witnesses. This clause also relates only to residents."

In response to Secretary Olney's demands for delay in executing the sentences on the condemned men, cable dispatches of May 10 from Madrid announce the following:

"The Government has resolved to adjourn the executions and has ordered that the sentences and the proceedings of the court-martial be brought to Madrid to be examined by the supreme court of the army and navy.

"Premier Canovas declares that the moment there is a protest the executions must be stopped, because otherwise examination and discussion of the case would be useless. Moreover, the guaranties established by the treaty of 1795 and the protocol of 1877 must be taken into consideration, and diplomatic debate is necessary.

"*El Epoca*, the official mouthpiece of the Premier, is more explicit, saying:

"There is no conflict respecting the sentences and Spain's right to punish the guilty parties. This is not discussed. The only question raised is concerning postponement of the execution of the sentences, which does not mean reduction of the sentences.

"When the protocol of 1877 was signed, the military tribunals gave such guaranties for defense of prisoners as witnesses and attorneys for the defense, but these modern summary proceedings have been suppressed."

It is rumored that Generals Weyler, Ochando, and Alumado are prepared to resign if the prisoners are not executed. The assembling of the American squadron in New York harbor is looked upon as a significant fact. Dispatches from England indicate that the British Government is about to interfere in the case of Kinlea, who was born in England. The newspaper comments, so far as received, agree in pronouncing upon the gravity of the situation:

Would Leave No Course Open but War.—"If the death sentence imposed on the Americans captured with the schooner *Competitor* should be executed, the United States will have no course open to it consistent with honor except a declaration of war, or a demand for immediate reparation emphasized by a warlike demonstration. The men were engaged in a trading expedition of contraband character, which did indeed expose them to confiscation of their property, but which is not by the laws of nations punishable by death. More than this, the captives were tried by a drumhead court-martial, in direct violation of a treaty between Spain and the United States which, guarantees citizens of this country accused of offenses against Spanish law trial 'exclusively by the ordinary jurisdiction.' . . .

"The gravity of this situation grows largely out of the self-willed and obstructionary policy of President Cleveland in refusing to proclaim the belligerency of the Cuban patriots. The indignation his course has excited among the American people has been so freely expressed that Spain has become convinced of this nation's hostility. The Spanish Ministers accordingly fear to recede from any position at the demand of the United States lest their own people denounce them as craven and eject them from office. It is wholly probable that performance even of a duty so plainly indicated as is the commutation of the sentences of the *Competitor's* crew would be followed by the overthrow of the Ministry. Knowledge of this fact is likely to make the Madrid Ministry choose rather to risk the wrath of the United States—a nation proverbially slow to resent an affront."—*The Journal, New York*.

A Violation of National Courtesy.—"Even tho the sentences of the prisoners should be commuted, the Spaniards have shown evmthesls indifferent to the solemn protest of our representative, Mr. Williams. Courtesy to this nation should have dictated to General Weyler that the prisoners be given a trial by an ordinary court. In taking the course he did he practically affronted the United States, the authorities of which have faithfully endeavored to suppress the fitting out of filibustering expeditions within our territorial jurisdiction. It is understood that Secretary Olney is in communication with the Spanish authorities, and has given them to understand in unmistakable terms that it is the intention of this Government to insist that our citizens shall be accorded their full rights.

"It is not probable that the Spaniards will execute the man Milton captured on the *Competitor*. In the first place, the manner of his trial was, if not illegal, at least an affront to this country. But, conceding for argument's sake that he suffered no violation of his rights and was guilty of the offense charged and liable under the law to the penalty imposed, his execution, following the wide publicity which has attached to the case, would so fire the American heart that it would be difficult to restrain Congress from taking action that would practically bring about war between this country and Spain. The people of the United States have a deep sympathy for the Cuban cause, and they look upon the insurgents, not as the traitors that Weyler regards them, but as patriots impelled by high resolution. Congress undoubtedly voiced the sentiment of the people when it asked the President to intercede with Spain for the freedom of Cuba. The President has not made known the course he has taken, altho it is well understood that he is employing his good offices in Cuba's behalf.

"Our Government has pursued a wise, conservative course, bearing in mind both our treaty obligations and the sober and earnest sentiment of our citizens. But if Spain shall not show a corresponding spirit, the pent-up volcano of Cuban sympathy in this country can not be kept much longer under control."—*The Ledger, Philadelphia*.

Smugglers, Not Filibusters.—"When the capture of the *Competitor* was reported it was naturally taken for granted that all her crew would be slaughtered, probably without the formality of a trial. Attention was called to the case in Congress, and it was said the State Department was doing its utmost in behalf of the American citizens captured. But the end now announced was foreseen from the beginning. The leopard does not change his spots, nor a Spanish captain-general his methods.

"The case arouses some interesting considerations, however, concerning the status of the condemned men, the character of their alleged offense, and the attitude of the Spanish Government toward the war in Cuba. The *Competitor* was engaged in carry-

ing arms and ammunition to Cuba. In itself that is a perfectly lawful trade. She was not a warship, menacing the peace of Spain. Her crew and passengers were not armed, or these few were not, so they were not filibusters. They were not violating the neutrality laws by carrying goods contraband of war to belligerents, for the Spanish Government says there are no belligerents and no state of war in Cuba. They were not running the blockade, for no blockade of the island has been proclaimed. Their only offense, therefore, seems to have been that they were conducting a perfectly legal enterprise in an irregular manner or an illegal manner. They were importing merchandise into Cuba; but instead of entering it at a regular port and custom-house, they tried to land it elsewhere on the coast. That is to say, they were engaged in smuggling, and nothing more."—*The Tribune, New York*.

Protest Can Not be too Vigorous.—"Shall we let Weyler hang or shoot these American citizens without trial, without proof of any guilt, and under circumstances which go very strongly to show that in fact no offense was committed?

"The *Competitor* was regularly cleared from an American port. It is said that she was caught within the three-mile limit of the Cuban coast. But what of that? *The Cuban coast is not under blockade*. Every American ship is entitled to land at any port on that coast. If arms were on board it is still no matter. We have the same right to ship arms to Cuba that we have to ship anything else so long as the existence of war there is not recognized. At the very worst these men were guilty of no more heinous offense than a violation of customs regulations. Shall we recognize the right of any nation to try our citizens by drumhead and put them to death for an offense like that? It is said that the State Department has entered a vigorous protest both at Havana and at Madrid. That protest can not be too vigorous, nor can it be too vigorously supported. It is our plain duty to forbid this outrage and to enforce our prohibition."—*The World, New York*.

"The United States must and will protect its citizens. Spain has been warned that the execution of the Americans unlawfully tried and unjustly condemned at Havana will be treated as national murder. If they are executed in defiance of that warning *it's war between the United States and Spain, and nothing can stop it*."—*The Herald, New York*.

High Time to Call a Halt.—"It is high time that the fiendish butcheries of Captain-General Weyler should be halted in Cuba, and our Government now has the opportunity presented to intervene and go even beyond the safety of Orna Milton. He is entitled to the fullest protection and every doubt should be resolved in his favor in deciding the duty of the Government to intervene in his behalf. If Spain shall choose to make it an act of war, let the responsibility be upon Spain."—*The Times, Philadelphia*.

"It is easy to believe that there is 'activity' in the State Department concerning the court-martial and probable execution of the Americans captured on the schooner *Competitor*.

"For if these men die, they will die—it is a hard thing to say, but a true thing—at the hands of this Administration. It goes without saying that, had this Government recognized the belligerency of the insurgents, Spain, however she might have continued the slaughter of her own subjects, would never have dared to include in it our citizens."—*The Press, New York*.

ADMIT no more States except at par, both in population and on the money basis.—*The Chronicle, Chicago*.

THE indications are that Cecil is going to have some hard Rhodes to travel before he gets there.—*The Herald, Boston*.

MANY a state with a favorite son may be heard plaintively murmuring: "Where is my wandering boy to-night?"—*The Post, Chicago*.

IF General Weyler loses his present position he may do something worth while as a writer of fiction.—*The Star, Washington*.

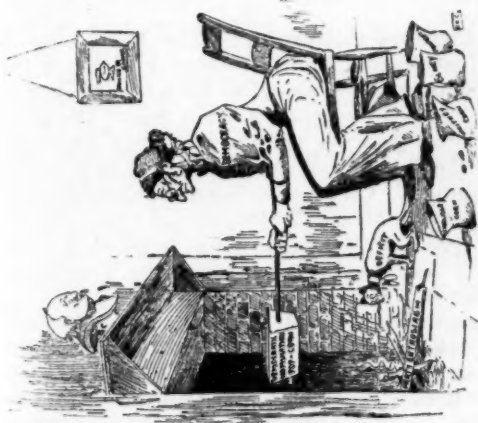
GOLD is going out of the country again at the rate of from two or three millions a week. Look out for another issue of Grovers!—*The Recorder, New York*.

THE Greater New York project was not born great, it has not yet achieved greatness, and it is experiencing considerable difficulty in having greatness thrust upon it.—*The American, Baltimore*.

LI HUNG CHANG is in high feather at St. Petersburg. Also he has with him the historic peacock feather of which he was bereft for a brief time when the Chinese armies were humiliated.—*The Journal, Boston*.



BUNCOED BY THE GOLD-BRICK GAME.
—The Herald, New York.



WAITING FOR SOMETHING TO POP.
—The Call, San Francisco.



IF I'M GOING TO PLAY SECOND FIDDLE I GUESS I'D BETTER BEGIN TO PLAY.
—T. REED (CZAR).
—The Journal, New York



M'KINLEY, THE SPHINX.
"Give my compliments to *The World*, but I have nothing to say."
—The World, New York.



A "BUSTED" BOOM.
—The Chronicle, San Francisco.



WE'VE GROWN UP TOGETHER, BUT I'VE ALL THE GROWING.
—The Herald, New York.



THE POLITICAL SITUATION.
A DOMESTIC WIND THAT MAY FORCE BENNY INTO IT.
—The Post, Cincinnati.

WOLCOTT, TELLER, AND THE WEST.

ARE the Western silver States going to bolt the Republican ticket if the St. Louis platform declares for "sound money"? Some light is thrown upon this question by declarations recently made by two Colorado Republican Senators. Senator Wolcott wrote a letter to the chairman of the Republican State committee of Colorado in which he declared that the Colorado convention at St. Louis should make the best fight possible for bimetallism, "but after having insisted by every proper means," should "accept the will of the majority of the convention and endeavor to secure the nomination of the candidate most friendly to Western interests." While he "would count party ties as nothing" to secure "the unlimited coinage of silver" he knows of "no fourth party as yet entitled to our confidence and respect." He can not accept the Populist Party on account of its advocacy of "socialistic and fraternalistic doctrines which are dangerous in tendency," and thinks that one event would be worse than the triumph of "gold monometallism and only one, and that would be the triumph of Populism."

At about the same time Senator Teller in a speech in the Senate declared that if the Republican Party "adopts the gold standard and puts itself in line with those who are demanding that gold, and gold alone, shall measure the values of the world" he would then "cease to act with it."

Ought to Settle the Question.—"The two pronunciamientos from the Colorado Senators ought to settle the question of free coinage at St. Louis. Mr. Teller announces that he will not stand a declaration against free coinage; Mr. Wolcott promises to support the party if it shall make such a declaration. Mr. Teller shows that there are silver men in the Republican Party who put silver above party fealty. Mr. Wolcott shows that there are Republicans among the silverites who care more for the party than for the metal. Mr. Teller's attitude proves that his wing of Republicans can not be held in the organization without a free-coinage plank; Mr. Wolcott's that the Republicans whom he represents will not bolt if the platform shall declare explicitly against 16 to 1.

"The real danger of the situation, however, is from the Wolcott wing of silver-State Republicans rather than the Teller wing. Everybody will see that the party can not satisfy the latter element. The risk will lie in the attempt to placate the men for whom Mr. Wolcott stands, and to 'let them down easy.' What is wanted is a clear-cut declaration, like that of the Connecticut Republicans, not only against the free coinage of silver at any ratio, but also in favor of 'a single standard of value, and that standard gold,' supplemented by the addition of a clause like that in the Massachusetts Democratic platform against 'any further purchases of silver bullion.' The temptation will be to juggle with words again, as was done in 1888 and 1892, and to say something which the Wolcotts can claim shows 'a readiness to do something for silver.'"—*The Evening Post (Ind.), New York.*

Not a Fit Man for a Delegate.—"Whatever else the Republicans of Colorado may think of Senator Wolcott's letter to Chairman Howbert of the Republican State Central committee, which we published yesterday morning, they can not regard its author as a fit man to act as delegate to the Republican national convention at St. Louis.

"His recent action in the Senate, in refusing to cooperate with Senator Teller in opposition to the consideration of the Dingley tariff bill before an act for the restoration of bimetallism should first be passed, proves conclusively that he is not in sympathy with his own party in Colorado in this matter, and the advice contained in his letter, to the effect that the Republican delegates from this State ought to make the best effort possible for bimetallism at St. Louis and then acquiesce in the action of the national convention, no matter what it might be, shows that it would be suicidal folly to send him as a delegate.

"His pretense that a fight to a finish for bimetallism at this time might result in the triumph of Populism, which he says would be worse even than the single gold standard, is very far-fetched, and it is especially ridiculous, coming from him.

"Four years ago he did more than any other hundred men that can be named to elect the Waite ticket in Colorado, and, inci-

dently, to insure the election for President Cleveland, who is the most bitter enemy of bimetallism this country has ever contained."—*The Denver Republican.*

"Mr. Wolcott has presented a point which ought to put a stop to all possibility of Republican bolting on the money question. His own State tried the experiment of Populist rule for two years, and the result was as disastrous as if all her mines had suddenly been exhausted. Kansas made a similar mistake and found herself reduced to the semblance of a tramp, so far as prosperity and credit were concerned. Surely no Republican can afford to contribute to a repetition of that calamity and degradation in any State, or to identify himself for any cause with an organization which has made a stench of everything it has touched."—*The Globe-Democrat (Rep.), St. Louis.*

A Great Disappointment.—"Senator Wolcott recognizes the fact that the opposition to free coinage comes from the small money-lending and importing classes and is directed against the prosperity of the masses of the American people.

"It is commonly recognized by the leading politicians of both the Democratic and Republican parties, that the campaign funds necessary to carry the Eastern States must come from the money-lenders and importers. It is this great influence which has previously held the two old parties to the single-gold standard. It is might against right, and the people at large are beginning to understand this point. Senator Wolcott has arrayed himself on the side of might, with a verbal promise to turn to the right when his party takes that step.

"Senator Wolcott's letter will be a great disappointment to ninety per cent. of the voting Republicans of Colorado."—*The Times, Denver, Colo.*

The Earth Will Continue to Revolve.—"The Hon. Edward Oliver Wolcott, the best-dressed man in Denver, and one of the most humorous persons in the Senate, has been rash enough to say that when worst comes to worst he will not regard the glorious, pious, and immortal principle of 16 to 1 as being more important to him than the Republican Party, of which he is one of the most amiable members. On the other hand, his distinguished colleague, the Hon. Henry Money Teller, swears that, sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish, he is for, with, of, by, and on account of silver. As far as he is concerned the Republican Party can welter in the depths of Tartary.

"Mr. Wolcott is a humorist and Mr. Teller is an enthusiast. After all, the bated breath of the country is not bated on their account. Mr. Wolcott can stay in the Republican Party and Mr. Teller can leave the Republican Party, and still the great processes of nature will go on, and, as Prof. Artemus Ward of Baldwinville said, the earth will continue to revolve on its own axis, subject to the Constitution of the United States. Mr. Wolcott and Mr. Teller are great men, but distinctly secondary. The question which seethes in all hearts and keeps folks sitting up all night, reckless of gas bills, is this: What is Tom Carter going to do? Is the Hon. Thomas Henry Carter, a statesman fuller than any other statesman has ever been, of the silver voice and the silver chin—is the Hon. Thomas Henry Carter going to stay in the Republican Party or is he going to get out? Will he continue to wave proudly from the Capitol, or, revolving rapidly on his own wheels, will he seek the secluded grottos of Montana, and recreate himself with his own ratio? Not much is important, but this is more important than anything else ever was or will be."—*The Sun (Dem.), New York.*

EXTENSION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THIRTY thousand Government employees were placed under the civil-service law by order of President Cleveland on May 6. This raised the number of positions in the classified service from 55,736 to 85,135. With a few minor exceptions between the extremes of officials whose confirmation by the Senate is constitutionally requisite, down to mere laborers and workmen, Governmental appointments are withdrawn as far as possible from political influence and protected in the mode of selection for office by the merit system. Under the new orders the executive civil service is divided into five branches, as follows: The Departmental Service, the Custom-House Service, the Post-Office Service, the

Government-Printing Service, and the Internal Revenue Service. This act is generally commended by the press, but some see in it occasion for personal criticism of Mr. Cleveland.

A Deathbed Repentance.—"If Mr. Cleveland had taken this step two or three years ago he would have been generously applauded by every friend of civil-service reform. There were then some prospects that the Democratic Party might remain in power for a term of years, and it would have been creditable to the sagacity of Mr. Cleveland had he encouraged the reform sentiment of the country by taking the step he has now made. He did nothing of the kind, however. Instead, he favored, if he did not urge, the sweeping change in the offices which has taken place during the past three years. From one end of the country to the other the cry among the Democrats has been: 'the spoils to the victor,' and Mr. Cleveland has willingly tried to satisfy the demand. Logan Carlisle's sweep in the Treasury is an illustration of what has occurred in the departments at Washington. Josiah Quincy's wholesale overturning of consulships is evidence of what has been done abroad. And the boasts of the Democratic *St. Louis Republic* that hardly a Republican officeholder remains in the whole Southwest is an example of what has happened in the whole country.

"Having done this and filled his party's belly with the spoils of office, and knowing that the Democracy is going out of power and that his own political career is nearly ended, Mr. Cleveland proposes to try and trick the country by a little deathbed repentance. He has passed the period when he can deceive anybody."—*The Press (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

A Courageous Act.—"The sweeping extension of the civil-service rule was a courageous act, but it was not surprising. No one has ever accused President Cleveland of cowardice, and we do not imagine that any one will do so. The President's convictions are sometimes out of accord with the popular idea, but no one can seriously say that they are not absolutely honest in their origin and argument. In this case the Presidential conclusions harmonize with the will of the great majority of Americans, and they can not be too warmly praised; they are the logical sequence of the many Presidential utterances in behalf of civil-service reform, and are fully entitled to the encomiums which will surely be showered upon them by every citizen of the United States who believes in good government."—*The Star (Ind.)*, Washington, D. C.

"The character of the change is well understood by our readers. It is in effect the emancipation of the public service from an ignoble subjection to the mean and petty tyranny of a class. It protects American citizens in the employ of the Government from influences and exactions as degrading to manhood as those that obtain in the seraglio-managed Government of Turkey. It takes out of our politics, to a very marked degree, a force that has been corrupt and corrupting. It restores to the people the right to have their work done well and at reasonable cost by those best fitted for it. It gives to citizens who seek it equal rights to share in the service of the United States, and to be judged fairly by their fitness, and not to be deprived of all opportunity by the influence of politicians upon the venal favor of appointing officers."—*The Times (Dem.)*, New York.

The Rascals Will be Turned Out.—"That order extending the classified civil service is an interesting portent. Having begun his last year, and probably the last year for a long time that his party will have anything to do with public affairs, he is fixing things so as to make it as difficult as possible to remove the Democrats whom he has been getting into place for three years past by the removal of good Republicans.

"The President evidently figures that the Republican Party will be too cowardly to jump on that civil-service reform humbug. He says to himself: 'I will make a cheap, fourth-year reputation for sincerity, and they will not dare to upset my rules for fear of the reform sentiment.'

"It is our honest opinion that the President underestimates the courage of the Republican Party. It is true that, by a beating of tom-toms and a wide advertisement of the idea that they are the cultivated remnant of American citizenship, the civil-service reformers have scared many practical politicians in both parties. They have been so far successful in carrying out their scheme as to have produced an odious bureaucracy in the national capital. They have deprived the public service of that spirit of enterprise

that compels the prompt doing of things that ought to be done and the prompt stopping of things that ought to be stopped. But the American people are beginning to see through their sham reform, and the most popular thing the Republican convention could do at St. Louis would be to adopt a plank against life tenure in office and in favor of that rotation which Thomas Jefferson considered so essential to the well-being of a republic. . . .

"But, no matter what action politicians may take, a Republican President is likely to have nerve enough to annul this last order of President Cleveland. The rascals will be turned out. The people have no earthly use for a change in government that does not involve a change in the personnel of the agencies through which government is conducted."—*The Recorder (Rep.)*, New York.

MORE GOVERNMENT TREASURY DEFICIT.

THE Government Treasury statement for the month of April shows receipts amounting to \$24,282,893, and expenditures reaching \$28,897,381. This deficit of \$4,700,000 has been made the subject of considerable comment and criticism by the press. It is estimated that the total deficit for the fiscal year which ends June 30 will be from twenty-five to thirty millions.

The Wilson Tariff Did It.—"This is merely a continuation of the unfortunate condition produced by the Wilson tariff law. It was passed as a revenue law, and its most conspicuous feature in operation is the failure to produce revenue. This is no surprise to the majority of the people, because the Administration and the country were admonished in the gravest manner before its passage that such would be its effect. Mr. Reed, the present Speaker of the House, in eloquent language warned Congress of the blunder it proposed to perpetrate, and even Democrats who were not saturated with visionary economics lifted their voices against the folly. The law has been in force about twenty months, and during that time it has caused a deficit, according to the official statement of the Treasury, of more than eighty millions of dollars, and the Government has been compelled to borrow close on to three hundred millions of dollars. It has had to borrow more than the deficit, for the simple reason that the deficit caused widespread distrust, and it was necessary to bolster up the securities in the hands of the people by a heavy show of gold in the Treasury. That an Administration, in a period of profound peace, would point to a deficit-creating revenue law as a triumph of statesmanship, was a novelty. It staggered the public. The people had no idea what such a party might deem it wise to do next, and they thought they had better realize while there was time. They rushed for the gold in sight, and, of course, the Government had to borrow more gold at exorbitant rates of interest. Between the Wilson law and the distrust it created, the Government has been forced to do this thing so often that it has crystallized into a policy—the Democratic Administration policy."—*The American (Rep.)*, Baltimore.

Lavish Expenditures by Congress.—"And yet in the knowledge that the Government is now running behind every week and every month, that this result exists in the face of the fact that above \$100,000,000 hitherto appropriated has been held back, has not been expended for the public works authorized by Congress, because the Treasury had no money to continue many of these works, outside of accumulations from bond sales—in the knowledge of all this, and knowing that by the closest economy in appropriating for the next fiscal year the revenues could barely exceed the expenditures, the House has thrown into the Senate appropriation bills involving an immediate expenditure of above \$505,000,000 and the Senate has so far increased the amount to \$520,000,000; and bills involving contracts calling for an ultimate expenditure of \$80,000,000 more—making a grand total of \$600,000,000, when it is clear to the minds of everybody in Congress that the Government will have less than \$464,000,000 in revenue that year to expend. And we have not included in the appropriations the large expenditures which many Senators and Representatives are calling for to lavish upon coast defenses as a supplemental undertaking to the building of a lot more battle-ships and other water armament."—*The Republican (Ind.)*, Springfield, Mass.

"The Treasury statement for the month of April is disappointing only on the basis of estimates made during January and Feb-

ruary. Then, from the way the revenues were running, there seemed good reason to expect that the necessary expenditures for the rest of the fiscal year could easily be met out of the current income. Since then, however, the revenues have been showing a steady decrease, and those who have been following the figures from week to week were quite prepared to find the April deficit as large as \$4,500,000, making the deficiency for the fiscal year to date about \$23,200,000. The most apparent cause for this condition of things is the check to business that was invited early in the year by the President's Venezuela message and the miserable jingo talk in Congress that followed it. Of course Secretary Carlisle could not foresee that when, last December, he estimated that the deficit at the end of next June would be only \$17,000,000. It is now probable that it will be nearer \$25,000,000."—*The Providence Journal (Ind.)*.

England's Best President.—"The figures which indicate some of the very different results obtained by the Administration of the Government by Benjamin Harrison and Grover Cleveland are both interesting and instructive. Thus:

Reduction of the public debt under Harrison.....\$310,000,000
Increase of the public debt under Cleveland.....262,000,000

"If to this increase of the principal of the debt the interest shall be added, the total sum will amount to \$501,000,000. And again:

Surplus receipts over expenditures, '91, '92, '93.....\$50,000,000
Deficiency under Cleveland.....142,000,000

"Now let us push the comparison a little farther, taking into consideration the influence of our legislation upon Great Britain:

Deficit in the British budget for 1892.....\$250,000
Surplus revenue of the United States, 1892.....9,914,000

"This represents the situation at a time when the American Government was operated solely for the advantage of Americans. The change that has taken place since the contrary policy was put into operation may be thus indicated:

Surplus in the British budget, 1896.....\$21,000,000
Deficit in the revenues of the United States, 1896.....25,000,000

"Mr. Cleveland is, by all odds, the best President of the United States that Englishmen ever had. If the Bradford manufacturers and the London bankers could control our politics absolutely he would have a third term without possibility of failure."—*The Manufacturer, Philadelphia*.

TO TAKE THE TARIFF OUT OF POLITICS.

THE city of Detroit has issued a call for a convention of the commercial, manufacturing, labor, and agricultural organizations of the United States, to meet in that city opening June 2, for the purpose of acting upon the following questions:

"First.—The discussion of ways and means for taking the tariff question out of partizan politics and making it a business question, instead of a 'political football.'

"Second.—The discussion of ways and means for the improvement of the consular service of the United States and the employment of such service for the increasing of our foreign trade, especially with the Central and South American republics.

"Third.—The advisability of recommending to Congress the creation of a department of Commerce, Manufactures, and Labor, and of making the chief of such department a member of the President's Cabinet.

"Fourth.—The advisability of forming a permanent organization for the purpose of holding annual conventions for the consideration of national questions and of recommending to Congress each year such changes in our laws or in their administration as may be deemed for the best interest of our country."

It is announced that the convention will be non-political and non-sectional, and all questions must be discussed from a purely commercial standpoint. The call is signed by S. B. Archer, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and on the convention committee are representatives of business organizations in Detroit, Cincinnati, Duluth, Scranton, Pa.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Dallas, Texas, Brunswick, Ga., Brunswick, Mo., De Pere, Wis., also representatives of the National Grange, American Flint Glass Workers' Union, Amalgamated Association, and others. The call declares that over 200 organizations have sent replies favoring such a convention.

The first object is declared to be "the taking of the tariff question out of politics," and the method proposed is the following:

"The tariff levied on all goods imported from any foreign country into the United States shall in all cases be an amount fully equal to the difference in the cost of producing said goods in any foreign country and the cost of producing such goods in the United States.

"Then establish a court or commission whose duty it shall be to investigate all matters in relation to the tariff and decide upon the schedules to be enforced."

Newspaper comments, for the most part, appear friendly to the

idea, but many do not think it possible to devise any practical plan for its accomplishment.

A Step Toward a Desired End.—"Another effort is to be made to take the tariff out of politics. We wish the movement success, but see no grounds for reasonable expectation of such an outcome. Tariff and finance are business affairs, and ought to be arranged on business principles; but we know of no power that can prevent them from holding their place as party issues. The authority to lay tariff taxes and coin money, conferred on Congress by the Constitution, could not well have been vested in any other body. But the vesting of that power in Congress inevitably made political issues of tariff and finance as soon as serious differences of opinion on those great subjects arose among the people. And we fear that, in spite of all efforts to get these questions out of the political arena, they will remain there as long as such differences exist. . . .

"Of course, Congress could not delegate tariff legislation to a commission or a department. It could—as it did in 1883—seek the aid of a commission of experts, but every member of both Houses would have the right to offer amendments to and discuss every clause of a bill that such a commission might frame. That the amendments and speeches would smack of partizan politics may be assumed. The Detroit convention is, however, a step toward a desirable end. If we can not get the tariff out of politics, it may be practicable to get more business sense and less partizanship into the consideration of tariff schedules."—*The Post, Washington*.

What Would Become of It?—"But, if it be taken out of politics, what will become of it? It must go somewhere. Suppose it shall be turned over to a commission. Who will appoint the commission? The President. As there are no Americans fit for such a place whose minds are neutral upon this subject, of course he must appoint either protectionists or free-traders. Mr. Cleveland inevitably will pack the body with free-traders, and they will shape their tariff-act in accordance with their views. Then they will send it to Congress; and, as nobody can compel Congress to accept such an instrument without question, the bill will be torn to pieces if the protectionists happen to be the majority of that body. The tariff can be taken out of politics only when all Americans are agreed that the tariff should have a certain shape and that will be never. So long as free men in a Republic differ about public questions they will contend over them upon the platform and at the polls. The only possible alternative is to have a despotism with a ruler who will adopt and enforce policies which happen to please him."—*The Manufacturer, Philadelphia*.

"There is enough sentiment in the country in favor of a non-partizan tariff, between the extremes of high protection on the one hand and the worse extreme of no protection at all on the other, to compel both political parties to meet on common ground on the tariff matter.

"A 'tariff for revenue only' and a tariff for moderate protection ought to be, and could be made, identical. The Detroit convention is decidedly a step in the right direction. What business needs at the present time is a slight equalization in certain lines, and then tariff rest, not agitation."—*The National Labor Tribune, Pittsburg, Pa.*

Another Tariff Convention at St. Louis.—"After studying the call for the Detroit tariff convention, we have come to the conclusion that we will not go, as we do not believe that there is any necessity for it. On the 16th of June there will be a tariff convention at St. Louis that will answer all of the purposes, and there is no doubt as to the stand that will be taken there, while at Detroit there are dangers of new and untried schemes, with which the people have not the inclination or the time to experiment. On the tariff question the people have been educated up to a point where they know just as well as they can be told what kind of a tariff they need, and, whatever may be the plans of the theorists, that is the kind of a tariff they are going to have. The Republicans that will meet at St. Louis may differ on other matters, but they are a unit on the tariff question. It might, and it might not, be a good thing to take the tariff question out of politics. Perhaps it can be done in a country where there has been an almost equal division of sentiment on the question, but we doubt it. Men will differ on this as well as upon all other questions, and it is bound to be an issue until one side admits that it is wrong and always has been, which we do not expect will happen right away."—*The Times, Dubuque, Iowa*.

PACIFIC RAILROAD DEBTS AND THE GOVERNMENTS.

THE House Committee on the Pacific Railways presented a majority report, April 25, in which it was shown that on January 1, 1897, the Union Pacific would owe the Government a net debt, including principal and interest, less payments made, of \$54,000,000. The net debt of the Central Pacific on that date will be \$57,000,000. Says the report:

"These companies have repaid to the United States sums which in the aggregate are almost equal to the entire amount of the subsidy bonds loaned, and in the case of the Union Pacific Railroad Company the repayments will exceed by the sum of about \$5,000,000 the entire amount of the subsidy bonds issued to its constituent companies."

The committee outlines the possible lines of policy open to the Government:

"First—To enter into possession of the properties, which would involve the immediate payment of \$61,385,000 first-mortgage bonds.

"Second—Foreclosure and sale of the Government's lien, which would practically reach the same result of the Government's acquisition of the roads. The roads if sold for what they would fetch would yield little or nothing for the Government on its debt.

"Third—To make an arrangement with the companies which should secure to the Government the payment of fixed amounts at prescribed rates, as large as the reasonably anticipated earnings would bear."

The committee recommends the adoption of the third plan, and would extend the Government lien to embrace the whole properties, including terminals, branch lines and feeders and equipments. Says the report:

"Without these it would be impracticable to operate successfully the subsidized properties.

"On the other hand, no settlement should be made which will leave the Government at its present disadvantage, and which does not provide for the Government security completed in the respects in which it has been heretofore so clearly deficient. The lien of the Government will embrace additional indispensable properties."

A minority report was filed April 27 by Representative Hubbard, of Missouri, against the bill presented by the majority. In the words of the *Philadelphia Railway World*:

"He asserts that every representative of the Government but one favored foreclosure. Mr. Hubbard contends that the propositions in the committee's bill did not contain the best offers made by the companies. He reviews the different propositions advanced, and asserts that, according to the exhibits made by the companies, the average earnings would pay both interest and dividends. Mr. Hubbard refers to the possible interest of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad in the Union Pacific reorganization. That company and the Union Pacific, he says, own all the stock of the Fremont, Elkhorn, and Missouri Valley Railroad, and so become the most prominent rivals in parallel and competing lines with the Union Pacific. The fear is expressed that under the committee bill the two subsidized roads will become part of two of the greatest railroad monopolies in the country. Another objection to the bill is its inconsistency with the constitution of California, which provides for the extinction of all corporations organized under the laws of that State not later than fifty years from their formation.

"The report recommends the substitution and passage of the Morgan-Brice bill, which was drawn by the Attorney-General. This bill, it says, simply confers exclusive jurisdiction upon the Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia over the Government lien and with power to enjoin parties from prosecuting proceedings in other courts to bar or cut off that lien. Mr. Hubbard recommends the appointment of a joint congressional committee to inquire into the affairs of the companies, especially as to their available assets and other facts pertinent to an adjustment of their indebtedness to the Government, and to report at the next session of Congress."

The California Republicans, in their State convention May 6, adopted the following plank for their platform by unanimous vote:

"We commend the course of our delegates in Congress in opposing the proposed funding schemes of the Pacific Railroad companies, and urge that the latter be compelled to settle their indebtedness in some reasonable and business-like way, so that the Government shall foreclose its liens upon and take possession of the properties."

We give these recent comments on the situation:

A Case of Hobson's Choice.—"The general method proposed by the committee seems to be the only one, since it is a case of Hobson's choice. The details, however, are not so satisfactory. The railroads get all the benefits, and the United States is left holding the sack.

"The way in which the Southern Pacific is to be prevented from further wrecking the Union and the Central Pacific is utterly ineffective. The guaranty of the payment of the Central's share of the fixed charges would not prevent further manipulations of the Central and further inroads on the Union. Perhaps the only means of preventing the ruin of these roads would be to take the Central Pacific away from the crowd that is manipulating it.

"The details of the scheme proposed by the House Committee are not satisfactory. Whether better arrangements can not be devised will perhaps be seen before Congress adjourns. At any rate the people will have more faith in the arrangements made by the House and the Senate than in the report of a small special committee. The affair must be settled, and we must expect to lose something. But Congress must make the best possible terms. And since it has the projectors of the Central Pacific in its power it should make as good terms as the interests of the roads can afford."—*The Times, Kansas City, Mo.*

"The plan agreed on by the committee is the best one for saving the Government from further expense in the matter. It is not the plan which the people of California and other States depending on the Union and Central Pacific railroads urged. These people were nearly unanimous in demanding that the Government take possession of the roads and operate them, or, at least, lease the privilege of operating them on terms which would be advantageous to the patrons.

"There can be no doubt that such a course would be a great blessing to the people of the West. The railroad monopoly which controls the commerce of the Pacific States is the most complete in this country. But the fact that the Government's mortgages do not cover the terminals and branch lines of the roads would make it an expensive matter for the Government to take possession."—*The Express, Buffalo.*

Results of Congressional Fumbling.—"It is a matter of history that in every instance in which Congress has undertaken during the last dozen years or more to reach a settlement with the Pacific roads the effort has been frustrated by methods of indirection, cunningly interposed either by the representatives of competing lines or by demagogues and speculators interested in keeping the question open for use as political capital or for personal gain. It has happened repeatedly that when a bill has been reported which demonstrably commanded the support of a majority in both Houses, it has been killed by the sharp tactics of a small but uncommonly active minority, who resorted to dilatory proceedings, plausible but fatal amendments, or the diversion of an investigation, to accomplish their purpose. The present unpromising situation is only the result of Congressional fumbling. Instead of trying to put the Government's largest creditors in the way of paying their debt, Congress has pursued them with punitive legislation, hampered them with restrictions, fostered disastrous competition, and deliberately put them at a disadvantage with rival corporations, until, having driven them into insolvency, the only question remaining, now that the debt has begun to mature, is whether the Government will agree to some reasonable terms of settlement with its debtors whereby it will be able to save something from the wreck—meantime taking its heavy hand off from them and giving them an equal chance with competitors—or, rejecting all offers of compromise, will foreclose its own mortgages, and, after having added \$60,000,000 to its investment by taking up the prior liens, undertake by Government management and control to make itself whole."—*The Tribune, New York.*

TORREY BANKRUPTCY LAW.

THE Torrey Bankruptcy bill was passed by the House of Representatives on May 2, by a vote of 157 to 81. It is now before the Senate. Judge Jay I. Torrey, author of the original measure, which has received slight modifications by the House, writes as follows to the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* relative to the provisions of the bill:

"The bill provides that any corporation, irrespective of the amount owed, may become a voluntary bankrupt. Persons, firms, and corporations (except farmers and wage-earners) who owe \$1,000 or more and have committed acts of bankruptcy, according to the evidence in a fair and impartial trial, before a jury if desired, may be adjudged bankrupts upon the petition of creditors.

"Acts of bankruptcy by a person (including firms and corporations) shall consist of his having within four months prior to the filing of a petition against him run away or stayed away to avoid service of civil process, and to defraud his creditors; failed for thirty days, or conditionally within such time, while insolvent, to secure the release of property levied upon for \$500 or over; made a transfer of his property to defraud his creditors; made an assignment or admitted his insolvency in writing and filed it in court; made while insolvent a preference; confessed a judgment to defraud his creditors; secreted his property to avoid legal process and to defraud his creditors; suffered while insolvent an execution for \$500 or over to be returned no property found, or suspended and not resumed for thirty days while insolvent the payment of his commercial paper for \$500 or over. Creditors need not proceed against a debtor who has committed acts of bankruptcy any more than they need sue every debtor who is in default in payment.

"If the judgment in a bankruptcy suit is for the plaintiffs, the defendant will be adjudged a bankrupt. In that event he will retain the exemptions allowed by the laws of the State in which he lives, and, if an honest man, will be discharged. If the judgment is for the defendant, the petition will be dismissed at the cost of plaintiffs, as in other suits.

"The property of the bankrupt will remain in his possession until after the trial, unless the creditors shall give bond and secure its attachment; in that event the debtor may retain possession of his property upon giving a forthcoming bond. . . .

"Claims may be proven by the simple oath of the creditors, and will be allowed upon being filed in person or sent by mail, without the payment of any filing fee; if it is thought that an allowed claim is fraudulent, it may be suspended and investigated.

"Preferences are forbidden, and those which have been given may be set aside if proceedings intervene within four months after they have been given. Valid liens will be upheld; fraudulent ones will be set aside. Present legitimate business methods will not be interfered with by the bill."

We give newspaper comments on the bill as follows:

A New Field for Lawyers.—"The country has had no bankruptcy law since 1878, when the act of 1867 and its amendments were repealed. The act of 1867 was the third bankruptcy act in the history of the country. The first was passed in 1800, repealed in 1803; the second in 1841, repealed in 1843. Since the adoption of the Constitution bankruptcy laws have been in operation only sixteen years, certainly a very moderate and conservative execution of the constitutional provision authorizing Congress to establish a 'uniform system of bankruptcy.' The act of 1841 followed as a logical incident of the business crisis of 1837. The act of 1867 closely followed the crisis of the Civil War, and the business depression, whose shadow is still upon the country, has left thousands of men in a situation which can only be relieved by another bankruptcy law.

"The features which made the act of 1867 unpopular—the delays in securing a discharge and the heavy cost of the proceedings—it is said, will be avoided under the House bill. Some new offices will be created, but this is unavoidable. The legislation would affect the legal profession, transferring some of its business from the State to the Federal courts. It would tend to diminish assignments for the benefit of creditors under the State laws; the number of sheriff's sales would be decreased, and the legal business incidental thereto. A new and special field of practise would be opened for lawyers, especially for attorneys who live in the

cities where the Federal courts sit."—*The Public Ledger, Philadelphia.*

Forges the Chains of the Debtor Class.—"The bankruptcy bill which has just passed the Republican House of Representatives, and is liable to pass the Republican Senate, is the most appalling measure for forging the chains on the debtor class of this country that has yet been proposed. The proper function of a bankruptcy law is to give an opportunity to a man who is hopelessly involved to get on his feet again—to surrender his property honestly to his creditors, to be relieved from his debts, and to start anew in the race of life. This purpose has long been recognized as just and proper, and the only objection to it has been found in the difficulty of formulating laws so that unscrupulous men could not take advantage of them for fraudulent purposes. But while such laws have usually been defective there has never been one that turned this beneficent purpose into an agency of oppression and business ruin as this act does in its provisions for involuntary bankruptcy. These are unprecedented. They place the embarrassed debtor wholly at the mercy of any creditor who desires to force him to the wall."—*The Indiana Sentinel, Indianapolis.*

"There are two sides to the question of the enactment of a national bankrupt law. This is shown by the division among large merchants, some of the most prominent, both East and West, being opposed to the bill; but generally for the reason that they feel that they can secure preference in case of the insolvency of their debtors.

"The vote in the House ought to convince the Senate that the country wants the Torrey bill enacted, simply because it is an honest law, putting debtors and creditors alike on a basis of equity in all parts of the United States, with favor to no class or section. If the pressure of public opinion upon the Senate has any value it ought to be applied with unmistakable vigor."—*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

Involves a Sectional Dispute.—"As has been intimated in the discussions in Congress of this question of enacting bankruptcy legislation, the matter in controversy involves largely a sectional business dispute between debtors and creditors. The retail merchants of the West and the South, according to the declarations of their spokesmen in Congress, do not care to be relieved of indebtedness under any national bankruptcy law which should confer upon creditors the power to take possession of their property by initiating proceedings against them in the Federal courts. These retailers prefer to depend upon compromises and upon State statutes of limitation for final release and discharge.

"To the Eastern wholesale dealer, however, the enactment of such a measure as that which has been passed by the House of Representatives would be of manifest advantage. Collections for debts would be practically entrusted to the Federal courts, and the course of domestic commerce would run more smoothly because of the inability of debtor merchants to exercise a large liberty of choice in procuring their supplies of merchandise. With the club of insolvency as a constant menace, there could be no freedom of the markets to retailers with heavy outstanding obligations."—*The News, Newark, N. J.*

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION AS A REMEDY FOR LEGISLATIVE EVILS.

DENUNCIATIONS of Congress and state legislatures have become very common. Accusations of a grave character are freely made, not only by partisans and "reformers," but by conservative and respectable organs of public opinion.

Prof. John R. Commons, of the Syracuse University, agrees with these critics, and has written a book ("Proportional Representation") in which the causes of legislative evils are discussed and certain remedial measures suggested. Professor Commons points out that recent tendencies in constitutional and municipal reform tacitly recognize the decline in the character of our legislative bodies by restricting as far as possible their functions and enlarging instead the powers of executive officials—mayors and governors. In his first chapter, treating of the "failure of legislative bodies," Professor Commons writes as follows:

"This demoralization of legislative bodies, these tendencies to restrict legislation, must be viewed as a profoundly alarming feature of American politics. Just as the duties of legislation are increasing as never before, in order to meet the vital wants of a complex civilization, the essential organs for performing those duties are felt to be in a state of collapse. The legislature controls the purse, the very life-blood of the city, the State, the nation. It can block every other department. It ought to stand nearest to the lives, the wishes, the wisdom, of the people. It is their necessary organ for creating, guiding, watching, and supporting all the departments of Government. Above them all, then, it ought to be eminently *representative*. But it is the least representative of all. . . . The American Congress was once the arena for a Webster, a Clay, a Calhoun, whose debates a nation followed. If it can be shown by what means representative assemblies formerly enrolled the honored leaders of the people, and met precisely the problems of the day, we may be able to see how the social and political conditions of to-day, resulting from changes of the past fifty years, have outgrown those early institutions, and rendered their original fitness a disastrous encumbrance."

Professor Commons proceeds to discuss, in a separate chapter, the essential differences between the ancient problems, constituencies, and representation, and those confronting modern legislators. The task of governing is more complex to-day, great corporations have arisen with public functions and immense resources, large classes of manual laborers have been enfranchised, and being unaccustomed to political control, they are the fertile soil for machine politicians and demagogues. Districts were originally all alike, being exclusively agricultural, and the representative from one was in harmony with the people of the others. To-day wards and election districts are bounded more or less arbitrarily, and include a polyglot population. Voters see little of each other, have few interests in common, and almost entirely depend on party organization. The "boss" becomes supreme, and nominations and elections are determined by the few active politicians rather than by the passive voters.

Professor Commons goes on to argue against the "district system," which was contrived to represent sections rather than parties. The injustice of the district system is most extreme in its effects on independent voters and new parties. As these are generally scattered, the system prevents their members from combining and bringing their influence to bear upon the course of politics. We quote:

"We have now been able to follow the various evil phases of recent American political life directly or remotely to their root in the system of electing single representatives from limited districts—a system which we have inherited unchanged through six centuries of political and social evolution. At the present time, when political parties based on social questions divide the people and seek representation, we are using a system of representation based on locality. The political parties inevitably seize upon this machinery and use it for party ends. Thus violently distorted, it represents neither sections nor parties. Instead, it has divided the people in every district into two camps, each dictated by its own party machine and spoilsmen."

"These two machines are often leagued together. Professor Bryce has pointed out the community of interests which exists between them on occasion of independent reform movements, when they actually combine against the reformers. . . .

"Hence come hopelessness and apathy of the better classes of citizens. Hence also come those violent explosions and hysterics of reform, those popular uprisings, which occasionally break down the barriers of machine rule, but relapse again, like a mob in contest with troops. The gerrymander and inequality in the representation of parties are bad enough; but the deadly evil of the system is the expulsion of ability and public spirit from politics, and the consequent dictatorship of bosses and private corporations."

Professor Commons rejects the "general ticket" and cumulative voting as crude, wasteful, and destructive of the rights of minorities. His own remedy, as indicated above, is proportional representation,

which is a combination of the cumulative vote and the free ticket. The plan is explained at considerable length, but its object may be briefly stated to be the securing of minority representation. The effect of the reform on municipal and industrial relations are fully considered. Professor Commons writes:

"With proportional representation the party primary loses much of its significance. Nominations can be made by petition. Municipal leagues, civic federations, business men's associations, chambers of commerce, labor-unions, have their completed organizations. These can nominate their tickets by petition, or can indorse those already nominated. As in English cities, where it requires but eight signatures to nominate a candidate for the municipal council, the matter would adjust itself, and there would be no danger from a multiplicity of candidates and tickets. With such facility in the nomination of independent tickets, and with independent parties holding the balance of power, the party primaries would fall into disuse. Politicians would not struggle to control them, seeing that, even if successful, yet their party could not elect a majority of the assembly, and so make it worth while for them to control the primaries. They would learn also to nominate by petition, as is the practise in other countries. . . .

"Proportional representation promises, above all, the independence of the voter, and freedom from the rule of the party machine. It will not abolish parties, it recognizes them. But it permits new alignments and groupings of individuals within and without existing parties at the expense of the iron-bound classification imposed by the modern highly-developed party machine."

The reader who is not familiar with the plan will get a satisfactory idea of it from these provisions of a bill prepared by the American Proportional Representation League:

"Any party or body of voters which polled at the last preceding city election one per centum of the total vote cast for the principal office filled at said election, or which shall present a nomination paper signed by voters equal in number to such percentage [or by the number specified in the law of the State concerned], may nominate a ticket or list of any number of candidates for said board of aldermen not to exceed the total number of persons to be elected to said board. Each voter shall have as many votes as there are persons to be elected, which he may distribute as he chooses among the candidates, giving not more than one vote to any one candidate, votes thus specifically given to be known as 'individual votes;' and each such vote shall count individually for the candidate receiving the same and for the ticket to which the candidate belongs."

Professor Commons believes that under proportional representation the character of legislative bodies would be greatly improved. He thinks the reform ought to be tried first in the election of aldermen, for the following reasons:

"City government in the United States is at once the direst failure and the brightest hope of our politics. It is based upon the ward—the pettiest extreme of the district system of representation—and ward politics is recognized as the worst politics. This is the hopeful feature, that the people acknowledge the failure, and are looking for remedies. What these remedies shall be is not yet clear nor agreed. A great many must be tried and tested, and their defects noted, and finally by experimental selection the fittest will survive. With three thousand cities and villages, America has the widest variety of municipal experiments in the world. Small governments can be reformed more readily than large ones. To experiment upon Congress jeopardizes the nation; to experiment upon cities risks but a fraction. And no experiment scarcely can aggravate the actual situation. From one city to another the successful reform will extend, and finally, like other reforms in America, proceed to state and national adoption. If proportional representation can be fairly introduced and tested, it is believed that the foregoing pages have indicated the hope of its universal success."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IT looks as if the Ohio Bill would go through.—*The Journal, Minneapolis.*
A NOISE that was very pleasant to McKinley was the Illinois.—*The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville.*

GREAT BRITAIN has found a foeman worthy of its attempted steal.—*The Press, New York.*

THERE is some danger that, through mere force of habit, Mr. Hanna may attempt to instruct the Methodist Conference for McKinley.—*The Journal, New York.*

LETTERS AND ART.

LYRICS OF THE DAY.

BORN two years before his illustrious brother, Mr. Frederick Tennyson took to poetry not as the main work of his life, but, as *The Athenæum* puts it, "as life's sweetest pleasure—as a solace above all others for all life's cares and pains." The volume that he has just put out, "Poems of the Day and Year," has received a cordial welcome throughout England. *The Speaker* says:

"Mr. Frederick Tennyson's work brings us back 'the touch of a vanished hand.' How closely there may be brotherhood in mind among brothers in blood these poems show. They do not at all imitate Alfred, but it is Alfred's point of view. The exquisite sense for the color and music and fitness of words is a Tennysonian heritage. The one thing in which the lesser brother is unlike the greater is that he seldom leaves much to the imagination. There are none of those delicate, haunting lyrics which suggest more than they say, and in the making of which the late Laureate was past-master."

The following description of March and personification of Spring has been widely quoted:

You can not hear the waters for the wind:
The brook that foams, and falls, and bubbles by
Hath lost its voice—but ancient steeples sigh,
And belfries moan—and crazy ghosts, confined
In dark courts, weep, and shake the shuddering gates,
And cry from points of windy pinnacles,
Howl through the bars, and plain among the bells,
And shriek, and wail like voices of the Fates!

And who is he that down the mountain side,
Swift as a shadow flying from the sun,
Between the wings of stormy winds doth run,
With fierce blue eyes and eyebrows knit with pride;
Tho now and then I see sweet laughter play
Upon his lips, like moments of bright heaven
Thrown 'twixt the cruel blasts of morn and even,
And golden locks beneath his hood of gray!

Sometimes he turns him back to wave farewell
To his pale sire with icy beard and hair:
Sometimes he sends before him through the air
A cry of welcome down a sunny dell:
And while the echoes are around him ringing,
Sudden the angry wind breathes low and sweet;
Young violets show their blue eyes at his feet,
And the wild lark is heard above him singing!

A worthy companion-piece to the above is Mr. Clinton Scollard's "Rain-Song," from *The Congregationalist* (Boston, April 23):

After long days of golden glare
How sweet the music of the rain!
And how ecstatic on the air
The catbird's silvery strain!

I see him in his cloistral gown,
This tuneful hermit in gray,
Swaying in rapture up and down
On yon althea spray!

His passionate runs and tremolos
Transcend the clearest notes of art,
As doth the peerless summer rose
Its winter counterpart.

His throat seems filled with lyric fire,
And listening there thrills me through
A touch of that divine desire
The elder poets knew.

My soul would search the secret springs
Where life's supremest meanings throng,
Would set sublime celestial things
To chords of earthly song.

A sudden mellow change, and lo!
The impulse like a ray is gone,
As from the clouds the vermeil glow
At the full burst of dawn.

Yet who shall say such sounds are sent
Unto the spirit-sense in vain?
Did it not hide some large intent,
That bird-song in the rain?

Apropos of the advent of Spring, here is a poem that reflects

the impulse of all ardent lovers of nature. It is by May Byron, and appears in *The Spectator*:

THE GYPSY TAINT.

Father is a townsman, mother from the far
Green southern uplands where wealthy pastures are:
My kith and my kindred are prosperous and sleek,
Who feed well and work well and thrive all the week.

But somewhere and some time, many a year ago,
There was a gypsy woman, that right well I know,
A wild dark woman from the moor and wold,
Who bare me an ancestor in days of old.

They hushed up her memory, hid her name away,
Thought they had done with her forever and a day,
Yet hath she left a heritage that none else shall win,
Whereunto my wandering feet have entered in.

For surely when the dead leaves scutter down the street,
With a rush and a rustle, like little flying feet—
When the sun west wakens, and with scared looks askance
The townsfolk hasten from the storm's advance,

My whole soul sickens with a fierce desire,
Stress of sudden longing sets my blood on fire,
For the wind on the hill-top in a lonely place,
And the cold, soft raindrops blowing on my face;

For the steep-hung hedges of the winding road,
And the forest pathway by the stream o'erflowed;
For the storm-swept heather where the blackcock whirs,
And the salt wind whistles through the stunted firs;

For the brown wood-water, and the brown field's smell,
And the wide sea-marshes where the curlews dwell;
For the moorland black against the last red light,
And the sunk reef's breakers brawling to the night.

Hide within your houses with your glaring gas!
Mine shall be the peat-smoke in the beech-roofed grass:
Count your sordid silver, tell your grimy gain—
Mine shall be the treasures of the wind and rain!

Some time ago a prize was offered for the best bicycle poem, and the competition resulted in an avalanche of bicycle lyrics, good, bad, and indifferent. The following, from *The Looking-Glass*, Atlanta, by Evalene Stein, is going the rounds, and has been classed in the first-named category:

A WHEEL-SONG.

O the ships have sails for the swelling gales
The falcon flies in the wake of the wind,
In the speed of the steed of the Bedouin breed
The blood leaps high to the hoof-beats' lead,
As the leagues are left behind.

But what care I
For the birds that fly,
Or all the vessels that sail the sea;
The blasts that blow
Till the trees bend low,
Or the barbs of Araby!

Nor wish I more for the wings he wore,
The fleet-foot one, of the fables old!
For the feathered rod of the messenger god,
Or the winged sandals wherein he trod,
In the happy age of gold.

Let poets mourn
For the days outworn,
But these glad mornings are still divine!
Those flying feet,
Were they half so fleet
As the speed that springs from mine?

Then ho! for the wheel with its strength of steel,
Yet blessed buoyance of sky-born things!
And the rush of the near and crystalline clear
Sweet breath of the summer that sings in the ear
Like harps of a thousand strings!

O wild and free
Is the joy to me
To breast the breezes and whirl along!
To skim the ground
Till the pulses bound,
And the heart bursts into song!

In this age of feverish unrest and abominable "hustle," it is well to give ear to such a voice as that of Dora Read Goodale, who contributes these stanzas to *Harper's* for May:

THE FALLOW FIELD.

Naked and fruitless lies the fallow field.
No mower there lays cradle to ripe grain,
Boasts the tilled soil, or counts it to his gain;
Unprized and poor, its furrows, blank as grief,

Nor keep the flock with tender blade and leaf,
Nor tempt the laboring bee. . . .
Passive to Heaven it lies, and the broad sun
Streams fearless down on his dominion.
God is its husbandman: mist-wreaths and dews,
Slant rain and the toothed frost, their cunning use.
And work new spells with oldest alchemy
In the spent borders of the fallow field.

Canst learn no lesson from the fallow field?
Not to Till only, not to those who strive.
The bright celestial visitants arrive!
Let the tired heart lie fallow, and the brain,
Eased of its tasks, wait like a child again;
Hush the quick-beating breast.
Nature, the old nurse-mother, knows a spell
That pleasures those who trust her passing well.
Who for a season only courts the sky
Will reap the fuller harvest by and by.
Give ear to silence; taste the sweets of rest,
And prove the virtues of the fallow field!

Turning to the *vers de société* of the day, we find the following,
by C. E. Green, in *The Chap-Book*:

THE LAY OF THE LOST HERO.

I.

How sweet it was in bygone times upon a leisure day,
To take a novel from the shelf and while the hours away;
And with our kindly author-guide to wander hand-in-hand
Among the many winding paths of love's own fairy land:
How sweet to toss the world aside, and in that freer air
Forget that there existed aught but beauty anywhere;
To feel the cool, delicious wind blow on us fresh and strong,
And watch the troop of men and maids trip merrily along!

What matter if a cloud appeared in that serene blue sky?
It lasted but a moment's space and then passed lightly by.
What matter if some thorns there were in paths true love must thread?
We knew that there were thornless flowers of happiness ahead.
Yea, tho' Sir Villain plot his worst and steep himself in crime,
His efforts, it was safe to say, were but a waste of time;
For always, in love's fairy land, of one thing we are sure,
Whatever woes the faithful pair of lovers may endure,

Kind Fate will let the hero win
The beautiful young heroine.

II.

Now, sad to say, this all is changed. Our novel-reading hours
We can no longer spend among those paths bestrewn with flowers,
But, dragged into a wilderness, we soon have lost our way,
Entangled in that thicket dense, the Problem of the Day.
Our hero, gay and brave before, has vanished with a sigh,
Which is not strange when we perceive the heroine near by,
For how can this poor youth exist (e'en tho' he should prefer)
With qualities, both good and bad, monopolized by Her?

One grand, gigantic Form alone comes slowly moving on;
All others shrink to nothingness beside this Amazon.
What does she want with heroes, pray, when Her determined plan
Consists in showing to the world the wickedness of man?
Yet e'en our friend, the villain bold, must think it hardly fair
That he is forced to sin his sins with such an humble air.
Ah! hopeless is the task indeed, and pitiable the fate
Of him who dares attempt to write a novel up to date,

For with the modern heroine
You can not get a hero in.

The subjoined lines appear anonymously in *The Bookman* for
May:

THE WAIL OF A READER.

Between the novels of the past
And novels of the day,
The histories and essays,
The drama and the play.
Biographies and letters,
The classics and the verse—
I wish I were an infant
A-playing with my nurse.

Six books a day for fourteen years,
By careful calculation,
Would of the novels of the day
Make worthy devastation.
Yet man's possessed to write *more* books
('Tis mental aberration),
I see but one way out of it—
Suspended animation!

The men that wield the pen shall be
Hypnotically placed
All comfy in a winding-sheet,
And boxed up in good taste,
And grace the shelves as heretofore
Our book-shelves they have graced;
And till the time we "read up"
Their souls shall be effaced,
And we will celebrate the day
In ceremonies chaste.

NORDAU ON ALFRED AUSTIN.

MAX NORDAU finds himself again at war with the consensus of literary opinion. Having condemned nearly every modern poet and thinker whom the world honors, he now lauds and extols the man whom the great majority of critics have assailed as a usurper of a title and position of which he is utterly unworthy. The poet-laureate, Alfred Austin, who was declared by most English and American writers unfit to succeed Tennyson, is vigorously defended by Nordau as the only living English poet who has any claim to that office. Austin, according to Nordau, is "perhaps the most perfect incarnation of Anglo-Saxonism in literature," the healthy and sane thinker, nature's aristocrat. The fact that his appointment caused "gnashing of teeth" is explained by Nordau as the result of the vogue of decadent tendencies. We quote from his article in the April issue of *Book Reviews*:

"To demand the nomination of Swinburne to the poet-laureateship was more than even the humbugs of the decadence dared to do. But they hoped to foist William Morris on to the Government, or should his socialism of nebulous origin stand in his way, then at least some disciple of their creed. They put certain names into circulation in their journals. They accompanied them by threats to the Government. They endeavored to convince the public that it was public opinion itself which was proclaiming these names to those in power, and as regards the more harmless portion of readers they succeeded in this.

"Lord Salisbury has taken no notice of the bleatings of the pre-Raphaelites and the decadents and has made Mr. Alfred Austin poet-laureate, because he considers him worthy of bearing this title. There are a goodly number of us, also, on the Continent who knew as long as eighteen months ago that Mr. Alfred Austin was chosen as successor to Lord Tennyson. His selection is the victory of healthy taste over that of seared brains, and of refreshing, humanizing poetry over doggerel, screeching delirium. By his decision Lord Salisbury has earned the thanks of sensible people also outside the frontiers of Albion. Is Mr. Alfred Austin a great poet? If the question is put in that way, it can not be answered. For, what is a great poet? Do you mean the towering peaks that are visible even from Mars? Do you mean the everlasting lights such as Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, Goethe? To these mighty ones I cannot compare Mr. Austin; but, also, not any other poet-laureate of the last three centuries. But if one wishes to acknowledge men like Freiligrath, Geibel, Hermann Luigg, Alfred de Musset, Lamartine, Sully-Prudhomme as great poets, then Mr. Austin is entitled to demand his place in their ranks. . . .

"He who only values that which is unhealthy in fiction will reckon without his hosts as regards Mr. Alfred Austin. He will find in his works not one pennyworth of madness, no indication of nerve weakness, not even the little bit of 'spinal consumptiveness' which is after all the least that every youngster expects from a poet. Such is this poet and thus has he arranged life for himself. He is of the blood of Theocritus and Virgil, drunk with morning dew and May showers, one who can understand the song of birds, a tender lover of flowers and a day-dreamer under blue skies. He lives in nature and feels himself, in every nerve, a part of her. Faust's cry of entreaty:

'Oh, that I could on mountain heights—
In your dear light forevermore—
Round mountain caves with spirits hover—
O'er meadows in your twilight float—'

has been realized in the existence of this happy mortal.

"I know nothing more beautiful in the poetry of all tongues than the songs which (in 'Fortunatus the Pessimist') the plowman, the shepherd, the haymakers, and the reapers sing in praise of the four seasons as they present themselves to the farmer, and Mr. Austin's last book, 'The Garden that I Love,' with its mixture of roguish, noble prose and songs, its observation of nature, and its comfortable descriptions of humanity, is an idyl full of charm that the dweller in cities reads with delight, but almost with envy of the pleasures that this privileged one knows so well how to cull from the world and from existence.

"One must not, however, think that Mr. Austin is a sort of a contemporary Gessner who exhausts himself in poems about little lambs and hedgerows and whose horizon only extends across his kitchen garden to his fence. Mr. Austin is a country gentleman

whose seat is a center and hearth of highest culture with far-reaching views of the world's commerce and the great questions of the day. In his stately seclusion, to which only his equals are admitted, the poet has the leisure, but also the impulse to occupy himself with the great affairs of humanity, both temporal and eternal. At Shelley's grave he took the oath: and he has kept his oath. His tragedy 'Savonarola' is a drama of intellectual emancipation. In 'Prince Lucifer' and 'Fortunatus the Pessimist' he gives a deep philosophy of life and offers solutions to the questions over which Faust and Hamlet brood."

Nordau goes on to describe the traits and qualities of the Anglo-Saxon type. The Englishman, he says, is "a muscular barbarian, with the ornaments of Greek and Latin; he esteems character before intellect, deeds more than words." And Austin belongs, both as man and poet, to this race of men:

"He honors only iron and despises gold, against which no more searching interdict was ever hurled than 'The Golden Age.' Manliness is his delight wherever he may meet it. He has been called a heretic for his glorification of Jameson. I am myself heart and soul with the Boers, and their victory at Krügersdorf pleased me as if it had been a success of my own. But I can also understand Mr. Austin's feelings. He only saw the adventurous side of the ride, the pluck, the fresh pleasure in daring of his countrymen, who, even in an unjust cause, rode without thought to meet the deadly danger like the glorious madcaps of the Balaclava charge. The poet that is enthusiastic for Jameson is the same who greatly admired Garibaldi and who cheered on the German armies. Strong deeds, whoever does them, make his heart beat higher. His dithyrambs are the most noble expression of that English love of strength of which the lower form is the passion for boxing and cock-fighting.

"To create living human characters is not Mr. Austin's peculiarity. I should like to regard his dramas only as dialogued lyrics. But as the singer of songs of perfect form, as the master of rich rhythms and rimes, he has no comparison to fear with any of his contemporaries."

TRIUMPH OF THE NOVELIST.

IS the ascendancy of fiction in our latter-day literary production the mark of a heightened appreciation of art? *The Dial* thinks not, and goes so far as to say that "the triumph of the novelist is, to a considerable degree, a triumph of ineptitude over ability, of lower over higher ideals, of slovenly over painstaking workmanship, of incoherence and disproportion over measured and organic art." The editor remarks that the Puritan prejudice against novel-reading has so completely vanished from the general consciousness of the public that we look with wonder at the belated preacher who still here and there voices a protest that would have found much support a generation or two ago; that not only do we read novels without compunction of conscience, but we are actually encouraged to read them by those to whom we look for intellectual and spiritual guidance. He continues:

"While nineteenth-century readers have been, as a class, almost universally addicted to the fiction-habit, there is no reason for thinking that the readers of the twentieth century will be any the less so addicted. Philosophical critics sometimes tell us that the novel will run its course and be replaced by something else, just as the drama and the poem and the essay have at other times and in other lands run their respective courses, and lapsed from favor. But these critics do not give us any very definite forecast of what the coming literary fashion is to be, and the novelist meanwhile snaps his fingers at all such iconoclasts. He simply keeps on producing what the public wants, with small regard for the opinions of those who tell us what the public ought to want. He has ridden upon the top wave of prosperity to the very verge of a new century, and it is his evident intention to carry into that century the practise of the arts whereby his conspicuous fortunes have heretofore been achieved. Nearly all the prizes of the literary life come to him, and he finds it very pleasant to have them. Yachts and villas and other expensive luxuries are within his

reach, and he looks down with patrician pride upon the poor poet in his garret, or upon the mere thinker whose intellectual work is done in the hours that can be spared from the uncongenial toil upon which he must depend for subsistence."

The Dial expresses indignation at the unequal distribution of the gifts of fortune as between the popular novelist and the scientific scholar, noting that "the fiction-writer who succeeds in catching the popular ear finds his path made easy ever thereafter," and saying that "while the writer of fiction may be intellectually one of the feeblest of mortals, yet the halo of fame encircles his head for the time, and he may with comparative impunity wax oracular even upon subjects of which he is most densely ignorant." On the other hand, it is observed that "the quiet thinker must struggle to get an audience, even for ideas which he is perhaps the best-qualified man in the world to express, and may count himself fortunate if his laborious days earn for him an existence of the most precarious and exiguous sort." We quote again:

"If the triumph of the novelist were a condition that concerned only the best producers, there would not be so much cause to rail at the degeneracy of an age that exalts the writer of fiction over literary workers of other classes. Fiction, at its highest, is one of the noblest of the arts, and it would be difficult to bestow recognition too generous upon a Scott or a Thackeray, a Balzac or a Tourguénieff, a George Eliot or a George Sand. But the deserved triumph of such writers is attended by an absurdly exaggerated estimate of the hosts of the undeserving. The whole mass of contemporary fiction benefits by the lift given the art by its masters, few in number as they are. And the best writers are by no means the most successful. Mr. Hardy and Mr. Meredith are far less popular than Mr. Hall Caine and Mr. Rider Haggard, altho the latter are mere bunglers, while the former, for all their perversities, are artists of distinctive genius. The attitude of our present-day public toward fiction-writers as a class encourages the notion that anybody knows enough to write a novel, and this notion, which might otherwise be harmless enough, is made perniciously effective by the publishers, who make it possible for almost anybody to get a novel printed. And so we have every year new novels by the hundreds, by the thousands, novels that have not the slightest claim upon any genuine intellectual interest, preposterous inventions that can only blunt the artistic sense of those who are foolish enough to read them, exploitations of every variety of diseased fancy and perverted imagination, guides to the conduct of life by young persons who know nothing of life themselves, books written with no higher aim than amusement that are too dull even to achieve that aim, productions of incompetent scribblers who might have found honest employment in farming or in housekeeping, and made their activities of some real use to society."

How Kipling Will Discover if it Was the Lady or the Tiger.—"Speaking of Mr. Frank Stockton," says *The Bookman*, "reminds us of a little tilt that we once overheard between him and Mr. Rudyard Kipling. The two gentlemen met at an authors' reception, and after some preliminary conversation Mr. Stockton said: 'By the way, Kipling, I'm thinking of going over to India some day myself.' 'Do so, my dear fellow,' replied Mr. Kipling, with a suspicious warmth of cordiality. 'Come as soon as ever you can! And, by the way, do you know what we'll do with you when we get you out there, away from your friends and family? Well, the first thing will be to lure you out into the jungle and have you seized and bound by our trusty wallahs. Then we'll lay you on your back and have one of the very biggest elephants stand over you and poise his ample forefoot directly over your head. Then I'll say in my most insinuating tones, "Come now, Stockton, which was it—the Lady or the Tiger?" What would you do then?' 'Oh, well, that's easy enough. I should tell you a lie.' 'Thanks, awfully! That's just as good as the truth, now that you've told me that it's to be a lie. If you say "the Tiger" I'll know it was the Lady; and if you say "the Lady" I'll know it was the Tiger. Good!' Then both of them drifted away from the interested group, and were presently observed to be standing in the immediate vicinity of a large china bowl with something pink in it."

LITERARY "COLOR."

WITH Crane's "Red Badge of Courage" in mind, Mr. Warner asks, in *Harper's* "Editor's Study," if literature is becoming a mere color-scheme. He observes that we do not hear much just now about "local color;" that it has "rather gone out," and "there seems to be a belief that you can somehow dye the language and make it more expressive to the reading eye." As to the vogue of "local color," he says:

"Given a theme or a motive for a story or sketch, the problem was how to work it out so that it would appear native and real. The author had only to go to the 'locality' that he intended to attack and immortalize, or write to a friend there residing, in order to pick up the style of profanity there current, the dialect, if any existed; if not, to work up one from slovenly and ungrammatical speech, procure some 'views' of scenery and of costume, strike the kind of landscape necessary to the atmosphere of the story, . . . and the thing was done. As soon as the reader saw the 'local color' thus laid on, he knew that the story was a real story of real life. He was deceived by the striking appearance, and it was some time before he began to suspect that the artist had begun to put on color before he knew how to draw."

Mr. Warner observes that we never thought of "local color" in the writings of the masters—in Shakespeare, Scott, Tolstoi, Turgeneff, Thackeray, or Cervantes; that "all they did was vividly a representation of human life, and was unconsciously stamped with the character of the country, the race, the scenery even, which was not daubed on the picture, or worked in with design, but was part of the texture, the very woof and warp of their literature." He continues:

"But color is essential, and high color attracts even the uneducated taste. Some writers are putting it on their pages in blotches, simply for effect upon the eye. The experiment is an interesting one. Some years ago a volume of sketches and poems was published in Louisville, printed in inks of many colors—shades to match the sentiment of the effusions. The fashion did not spread; and now the color scheme is tried in a more subtle form—that is, by suggestions of real colors in words. We read of an ethical motive as 'a yellow light thrown upon the color of his ambitions;' in the army a soldier is part of 'a vast blue demonstration;' we read of 'liquid stillness' and 'red rage,' a 'black procession' of oaths, the 'red sickness of battle,' and so on, and so on. The attempt in the book from which these expressions are taken is to make every page blaze with color, in order to affect the mind through the eye. It is all very interesting. Every page is painted, perhaps I should say saturated with this intensity of color. Undeniably the reader is strongly affected by it—tho the effect is weakened in time. The natural eye can not stand a constant glare of brilliant light, and the mind soon wearies of the quality that has come to be called 'intensity' in literature. Great literature is always calm, and produces its effects by less apparent effort. This is of course a truism, but at the same time the reader does love warmth and color and the occasional show of vivid pictures on the printed page.

"The story to which I have referred is in many respects a remarkable one. It is the description of the feeling and experience of a raw soldier lad in a couple of days of battle, and it has gained foreign approval as one of the most real pictures of war ever made, one that could have only been drawn from personal experience. I believe, in fact, that it is purely the work of imagination, and it might not have been written but for Tolstoi's 'Sevastopol.' And yet it is quite original in its manner. I have been curious to hear what the 'Realists' would say about it. The conversations are plainly vernacular, and there is no attempt to idealize the persons of the vivid drama. There is a studied commonplaceness about the talk and the characters, which seems nature itself. But I have talked with many soldiers of what they actually saw and felt in great battles, and I never got from any of them such a literary appreciation of a battle as this, nothing, in fact, half so interesting. I would not dare to say, from internal evidence, that this young soldier was 'not in it,' but any man who could see these pictures, have these sensations, and go through this mental and moral struggle in such circumstances ought not to be food for powder. He is needed in the New York drama.

I do not wish to be misunderstood. I liked the book very much. I was carried along by its intensity, and felt at the end as if I had experienced a most exciting and melodramatic dream, which I could not shake off when waking. I do not know how much of this effect was due to the scheme of color. It is almost a poem—quite, except in form. It is real, in a way. But what worried me was the thought of the verdict of the Realists. Would they not call it lurid realism?"

Can't Resist "the Centripetal Pull."—"The announcement is made," says the *Hartford Courant*, "that the *Chicago Chap Book*, the successful bi-monthly which stands for the newer developments and younger writers in contemporaneous literature, will come to New York and that the Chicago house of Stone & Kimball, which is behind this publication, will move its business to the metropolis. If this report is true, it furnishes another example of what we have pointed out before—the centripetal power of New York city as a center of literary interest on its practical side. Whatever one's opinion as to New York being the literary center in the sense of attracting the most and ablest writers, there is no denying that it seems to exercise the greatest influence as a publishing center. Again and again magazines and other periodicals have been started in different parts of the land, to be absorbed finally in the biggest and most powerful of American cities. The drawing power of the place in this way appears to be irresistible. We hear much nowadays of the growth of Chicago, in literary and art life, and it can not be questioned that the great city of the middle West has been making giant strides forward in this respect. The expansion of her material interests has been followed by expansion in other and higher ways. But such an incident as the removal to New York of Stone & Kimball would seem to show that the latter city is still the one which, above all other centers in the United States, imperiously attracts to herself the machinery and monetary influence of literature. It is hard for authors, publishers, and periodicals to resist the centripetal pull."

NOTES.

GLADSTONE has written such a vast number of letters during his life that his autographs bring only sixpence in the English market.

MR. THEODORE WATTS, in consonance with a family arrangement, has, we learn, added to his surname that of his mother, and, consequently, will in future be known as Theodore Watts Dunton.

IN Harold Frederic's new novel, "The Damnation of Theron," the central figure is a Methodist minister, self-educated, untutored in the ways of the world, and intensely earnest. He is brought into intimate association with a woman who is in every way his spiritual and intellectual antithesis—a Roman Catholic, brilliant, beautiful, and self-indulgent, who seeks a new sensation in tempting the raw country preacher who has yet to learn the perils of a prolonged flirtation. The scene is laid in a small country town.

IT is said that Amélie Rives and her titled husband live in small but aristocratic Bohemian quarters. They are in a nest of artists' quarters called the "Bolton Studios," on the edge of South Kensington, London. There are twenty-seven of these studios all in a row. They are approached by a long, curved, tunnel-like passage. They are built from the "Old London" exhibit of a dozen years ago. Prince Troubetzkoi's studio is some twenty-five by fifteen feet. Above it are two small sleeping-apartments and a bathroom. The yearly rental is \$400.

"IN the life of the late Poet Laureate, which the present Lord Tennyson is preparing, it would be interesting," writes a correspondent of *The Westminster Gazette*, "if particulars were given concerning the poet's premonitions of death. Just about a year prior to his decease the late Lord Selborne, Lady Wolmer, wife of the present earl, and other friends were visiting Aldworth House, Blackdown. Tennyson and his visitors were admiring the beautiful surroundings, and Lord Selborne turned to his host, and said, 'You ought to be happy here.' 'Ah!' said the poet, 'I have only a year to live.' The company attempted to dislodge the thought, but Lord Tennyson stuck to his warning. Subsequent events justified his reply."

THE American Art Society is an organization of connoisseurs, incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, associated together for the purpose of publishing and distributing among themselves the finest reproductions of the great art-works of the century. It closely resembles the Arundel Society of London, except that it confines its publications to modern subjects, while the Arundel Society issues almost exclusively copies of religious subjects by the old masters. The selection of subjects for publication will be placed in the hands of an advisory committee composed of American artists. In the publications themselves, the highest artistic skill and latest improved processes will be employed. All the publications will be *remarque* proofs. Any person "of full age and of good character" is eligible as an associate.

SCIENCE.

INFECTED ATMOSPHERE.

IT is the general impression that the air expired by healthy persons is disease-producing by reason of some organic poison that it contains. The results of the latest experiments do not bear this out. To breathe the air in a crowded room is not healthful, to be sure, but that is because of the carbonic-acid gas that it contains; there is no active poison in it unless some of the persons in the room are diseased. These facts are brought out by Dr. Guy Hinsdale in a lecture delivered before the class of nurses in training at the Orthopedic Hospital, Philadelphia, and printed in *The Medical News*, May 2. Says Dr. Hinsdale:

"The air we breathe is a fertile subject for scientific investigation. Twenty years ago we knew comparatively little about the organic constituents of the atmosphere. Beyond the evidence of our senses in detecting bad air, prompting us to apply the general principles of ventilation, and beyond the well-grounded belief and knowledge that change of air to the mountain or the sea would favor the recovery of cases that resisted other measures, little was known."

After stating the prevailing belief that the injuriousness of unventilated rooms is due to an organic poison in the air and in but slight degree to carbonic-acid gas, he goes on to say:

"Experimenters hitherto have reported various results, but the majority have, of late, denied that the exhaled breath of healthy human beings, or of animals, contains a poisonous or organic alkaloid, or any poisonous product other than carbonic acid."

The most important part of this experimental work is then stated, and the conclusion deduced from it follows:

"The conclusion from this experimental work is that the injurious effects of air expired by healthy animals and men are due entirely to the diminution of oxygen, or the increase of carbonic acid, or to a combination of these two factors. It would appear also quite improbable that the minute quantity of organic matter contained in the air expired from human lungs has any deleterious influence upon men who inhale it in ordinary rooms, and hence it is probably unnecessary to take this factor into account in providing for the ventilation of such rooms."

"The experiments showed, secondly, that in ordinary quiet respiration no bacteria, epithelial scales, or particles of dead tissue are contained in the expired air. But in the act of coughing, or sneezing, such organisms or particles may probably be thrown out."

"Thirdly, the ammonia exhaled is chiefly due to the products of decomposition of organic matter which is constantly going on in the mouth and pharynx."

"Fourthly, the air of hospital wards was found to be contaminated chiefly by minute particles—dust. This contained micro-organisms capable of producing inflammation and suppuration."

"Fifthly, No peculiar volatile poisonous matter in the air expired by healthy men and animals was found, save carbonic acid."

"It was also found in these investigations, as in others preceding them, that animals may be habituated to an atmosphere so vitiated by a loss of oxygen and an increase of carbonic acid, that a similar animal brought into it from fresh air dies almost immediately. It would appear that immunity to vitiated air may exist normally in certain mice, or be produced in them. It would be an interesting research to determine what races of men can endure the greatest foulness of atmosphere. One who reads the testimony of Arctic explorers, from Dr. Kane to Caspar Whitney, can not fail to be impressed by the tolerance which the Eskimo Indians show in this regard."

"In the excessive cold of the Arctic regions the consumption of oxygen increases as the temperature diminishes, and the demand for oxygen is more urgent than in temperate climates. Drs. Billings, Mitchell, and Bergey say that the proportion of increase of carbonic acid and of diminution of oxygen, which has been found to exist in badly ventilated schools, theaters, or barracks, is not sufficiently great to satisfactorily account for the great discomfort which such conditions produce in many persons, and

there is no evidence to show that such an amount of change in the normal proportion of these gases has any influence upon the increase of disease and death-rates, which statistical evidence has shown to exist among persons living in crowded and unventilated rooms. The causes of the increased death-rate under these circumstances are chiefly pulmonary tuberculosis and pneumonia arising from the access of infected dust to the air-passages. It is also pointed out that impure atmospheres may affect the vitality and bactericidal powers of the cells and fluids of the upper air-passages with which they come in contact, and may thus predispose us to infections, the potential causes of which are almost everywhere present, and especially in the upper air-passages and in the alimentary canal of even the healthiest persons. Whether such be the cause or not we do not know; future studies may enlighten us."

To show the results of infection by dust, Dr. Hinsdale describes an interesting series of experiments at an Adirondack sanitarium, where dust collected from buildings occupied by tuberculous patients was found capable of producing the disease in animals inoculated. On this he comments as follows:

"Such, then, are the results in a sanitarium favorably located in the Adirondack Mountains, presided over by one who is giving the best years of his life to the scientific treatment of tuberculosis, at the bedside and in the laboratory."

"But what may we expect to find in the city hospital, where clouds of dust sweep over us from we know not where, and smoke from factories and locomotives poison the atmosphere?"

"Cornet collected dust from the walls and headboards of beds in seven of the hospitals of Berlin where phthisical patients were treated, and inoculated ninety-four animals. Fifteen out of twenty-one rooms furnished tuberculous matter. Of the ninety-four animals fifty-two died of other diseases; of the remaining animals, killed after forty days, twenty were tuberculous and twenty-two were sound. Tests of dust from the walls of houses of fifty-three private patients affected with tuberculosis were introduced into 168 animals, of which ninety died soon after the injection, thirty-four were found tuberculous, and the remainder sound. In the aggregate about one fifth of the animals submitted to these tests were found to have become tuberculous. . . ."

"I think I have thus made plain that dust is the abomination to be shunned. We shall probably never live where we can absolutely avoid it, but we can do a great deal toward preventing its virulent character. If the doctrine of spontaneous generation had been established, little encouragement might be expected in a fight against infectious diseases, but, as Pasteur said, thirty years ago: 'Man has it in his power to cause parasitic diseases to disappear off the surface of the globe.' Prevention, like charity, properly begins at home; and eternal vigilance is the price of safety. . . ."

"In our own homes few have marble floors and steam heat, and painted walls are not looked upon with favor. We can, however, make a warfare against dust. A hardwood floor is conducive to health, because it quickly shows the presence of dust or dirt, and can easily be kept clean. But best of all we have sunlight. The tubercle bacillus is one of those imps that loves darkness rather than light, because his deeds are evil. There is no disinfectant so potent against tubercle bacilli as bright sunlight. The sunniest spots are the safest. In choosing a home avoid shadows from trees or high buildings; avoid dampness, especially dampness of the soil, and above all make inquiry as to the previous occupants, whether in your home or your hotel, and if tubercular disease has been present, and no proper disinfection or supervision of the patient has been practised, see to it that the quarters are put in proper order or secure others."

"The progressiveness and the enterprise of the American spirit are strikingly shown in the interest taken by the press of the United States in Röntgen's X-ray discovery," says *The Electrical Review*. "The technical journals—electrical and otherwise—have published hundreds of pages, with costly illustrations, noting the developments and results achieved by scientific men all over the world. The daily press has also printed many columns, characteristically tinged with sensationalism on the X ray. The British electrical journals have devoted but a limited amount of space to the matter, and have drawn largely on their American contemporaries for their information. In years to come, when we have learned a little of what these radiations really are, and can understandingly appreciate the wonderful results of which they now give promise, it will be to the files of American technical journals that scientific men and others will turn for historical facts on the subject."

THE METRIC SYSTEM IN CONGRESS.

THE effort to have the metric system of weights and measures established by law in the United States came very near success in Congress last month, the bill having been passed in the House and then reconsidered. *Science*, April 24, publishes the subjoined account of the proceedings:

"The Hon. C. W. Stone, Chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures, received notice on Tuesday afternoon, April 7, that he would be given an opportunity to call up at once the committee's bill in regard to fixing the standard of weights and measures, according to the metric system of weights and measures. The hour was late, but Mr. Stone promptly made his argument in favor of the bill. Mr. Stone's speech was a thorough and comprehensive discussion of the proposed change, preceded by an historical sketch of the origin of the system. He quoted the prediction made by the Hon. John A. Kasson in reporting the bill in 1866 to the House, that a subsequent House would make, at a not-distant date, exclusive and compulsory the measures then simply legalized. He cited the strong indorsements which the system has received from the late Secretary Blaine, Postmaster-General Wilson, Secretary Carlisle, the Director of the Mint, the Superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, etc., and dwelt at some length on the letter of the Hon. J. S. Morton, Secretary of Agriculture. He discussed also the magnitude of our commercial relations with metric-using countries and showed the ease with which the system had been adopted by different peoples. He cited the British Consular reports, showing Great Britain's loss through retaining her old and awkward systems, and explained the present progress toward the metric system by the three remaining non-metric countries, the United States, Great Britain, and Russia.

"Mr. Stone's speech was very well received, and it was first thought that a vote would be taken without debate. Mr. Bartlett, of New York, however, secured the floor and made a short speech in opposition to the bill. He was followed by Representative Otey, of Virginia, who made a humorous speech against the metric system, dwelling chiefly upon the metric terms. Mr. Hurley, of Brooklyn, replied in a dignified manner to Mr. Otey's effort and suggested that in the hands of a humorist our present system could be made very ridiculous. After more discussion Mr. Stone called for a vote, and on a division of the House there were 65 votes in the affirmative and 80 in the negative. The vote being less than a quorum, Mr. Stone succeeded in securing an adjournment, and the fight went over until Wednesday morning, when the yeas and nays were ordered. After the experience of the day before, Mr. Stone was anxious to gain time, believing that it was only necessary to acquaint the members further in regard to the system under more favorable conditions than those of a noisy debate in the House, to secure the passage of the bill; but a vote could not be avoided, and when the announcement was made that the bill had passed by a vote of 119 to 117 a shout of applause went up from the floor and galleries. Those who had opposed the bill, however, took courage, because of the narrow majority in favor of the bill, and promptly moved a reconsideration. Upon this motion yeas and nays were ordered, and the opponents of the bill went vigorously to work to change votes, with the bugaboo of the angry farmer protesting against being tangled up with a new system of weights and measures on the eve of a Congressional election. The result of this work was soon apparent. Mr. Hurley's motion to lay the motion to reconsider on the table was lost by a vote of 136 to 111, and the motion to reconsider prevailed by a vote of 141 to 99. Mr. Stone's only remaining chance was to ask to have the bill recommitted to this committee. This motion was carried *viva voce*.

"After the battle in the House many members who had voted against the bill expressed themselves as not being opposed to it for any reason except that they did not understand it; while others did not hesitate to say that it would be a very easy thing to put through after election. A Western member voiced the sentiment of many of his colleagues in a paraphrase of one of Mr. Otey's witticisms, saying: 'If I should talk to my farmers about kilograms they would kill me next November.'

"The campaign for the introduction of the only enlightened system of weights and measures known to the world will go on unchecked, and sooner or later the United States will follow the other nations of the earth in its adoption."

COMMERCIAL FIBERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

AN additional proof of the fact that our resources, great as they are, are only half-developed, is brought out by Charles Richard Dodge in a paper, read before the Philosophical Society of Washington, D. C., on "Some Undeveloped American Fibers," in which he showed that we are cultivating only four of the fifteen fibers that are known to our commerce, while at least six of the others might profitably be grown here, and many that might possibly be useful remain untested. We quote from an abstract of the paper communicated to *Science*, April 24, by the Secretary of the Society:

"In the United States fifteen commercial fibers are recognized, only four of which are produced to any extent within our borders: cotton, hemp, palmetto, and Spanish moss. The commercial forms not grown, but which might be produced in this country, are flax, jute, sisal hemp, New Zealand flax, cocoanut, and possibly sunn hemp.

"There are many other forms of plants, some of them classed as American weeds, which produce fibers known as jute or hemp substitutes, that it will not pay to cultivate while the standard fibers hold the market. These are chiefly bast fiber plants.

"The flax industry is being reestablished in this country, on the lines of an 'American practise' laid down by the Department of Agriculture, and gratifying progress has already been made in the new industry. Sisal hemp and some alleged forms of structural fiber plants will thrive in southern Florida. Ramie culture and the spinning and manufacture of the fiber are no longer problems, tho the world waits for a successful machine to clean the fiber for market.

"There are many hundreds of fiber plants in the world, and the fiber expert is constantly asked to give information concerning the more promising species, not always with a view to cultivation, but often that useless expense in experimentation may be avoided through proper knowledge of their value. The question to be asked in considering a new form of fiber is not 'Can we grow the species?' but 'What commercial fiber will it compete with, or become a substitute for?' With a definite knowledge of the subject, as it relates to the fibers of the world, the expert need never be in doubt regarding the economic value of any species that may be submitted to him for an opinion.

"The commercial fibers represent, in a sense, the survival of the fittest, and until these are crowded out by new conditions there is little chance for the other fibers, unless a particular species is found adapted to some new and special use for which the standard forms are not available."

Mr. Dodge believes that government aid is necessary in carrying on experiments and investigations on the undeveloped fibers in a scientific manner, for instance for testing the strength of fibrous substances, for examining new machines or processes for their preparation, and for the cultivation of new fiber plants in order to demonstrate their economic value.

The X Rays as Objects of Investigation.—Professor Röntgen's discovery as a newspaper sensation has almost had its day, but as an object of scientific investigation it is opening up new fields daily. To show how it is usurping an unusually large proportion of attention, it may be stated that at the session of the Paris Academy of Sciences of March 30, no less than nine papers were presented on the subject, the total number reported being only eighteen, of which four related to subjects unconnected with physics. The titles of these nine papers are quoted, to show the different points of view from which the subject is approached: "On the Different Properties of the Invisible Radiations Emitted by Salts of Uranium, and the Radiation of the Anti-Cathodic Wall of a Crookes Tube." "On the Penetration of Gases into the Glass Walls of Crookes Tubes." "On the Employment of Non-Uniform Magnetic Fields in X-Ray Photography." "On the Time of Exposure in X-Ray Photography." "Action of X Rays on Electrified Bodies." "On the Röntgen Rays." "Stereoscopic Photographs with X Rays." "Determination with the Aid of X Rays of the Depth of a Foreign Body in the Tissues." "Action of X Rays on Phycomyces."

AN ARTIFICIAL SOLAR CORONA.

IN a recent article on the solar corona quoted in these columns, mention was made of the experiments in which Prof. M. I. Pupin, of Columbia College, had succeeded in reproducing the phenomena of the corona very exactly, on a small scale, by means of electrical discharges. We are now enabled to present Professor Pupin's own description of these experiments, with his photographs of the results, which appear in *The Electrical Age*, March 28 to April 25. We quote only those portions that bear directly on the imitation of the corona. As an introduction to the paper *The Age* prints the following remarks on the history of the subject:

"The mysterious halo of light seen around the sun during a total eclipse was first described in 1706. Vast streams of light were noted and examined by Lonville and Halley in 1715. The peculiar character of these discharges, their fluctuating brilliancy, and changeable nature, gave rise to many widely different opinions. Maraldi in 1724, Antonio de Ulloa in 1778, and Bonditch and Ferrer in 1806 made mention of their opinions and observations regarding this solar crown. An attempt was made by several astronomers to arrive at some general conclusion which would assist in explaining the meaning of these streamers, and during the total eclipse of 1842 Airy and Arago turned their attention particularly toward it for this purpose. Even with the closely scrutinizing gaze of such eminent scientists the decision of the question lay in complete abeyance. Arago specially refers to this state of affairs in the following words: 'The disagreement of the observations taken in different places by skilful astronomers of one and the same eclipse have involved the question in fresh obscurity, so that it is impossible to come to any conclusion as to the cause of the phenomenon.'

"The question naturally resolves itself into the following: Is the corona a real substance or is it merely due to a diffraction of the sun's rays near the lunar periphery?

"The radiating streaks often occupy a curious position and the length of them at times exceeds 9,000,000 miles. Professors Young, Langley, Abbe, and Newcomb have observed the enormous scope of the solar nimbus. In 1868, 1871, and 1878 sketches were made of this remarkable phenomenon.

"The possibility of its being merely an optical delusion has been swept aside. Of whatever nature it may be, it has thus far evaded the attempts of able men to decipher it.

"A writer has said that it consists, in part at least, of gases *far more tenuous* than any with which we are acquainted on our earth.

"The corona has been reproduced by Prof. Michael Pupin of

Columbia College. The very photographs obtained show a strong resemblance to those taken direct from an eclipse by dry-plate and telescope.

"Possibly the corona does consist of a tenuous gas. The least to be done is to republish the best known evidence tending to throw light on this much-argued question.

"Let us, then, regard it from a new standpoint, in fact, let the question, better answered than ever by the following article, be again presented—and the surprising results—the comprehensive survey make way anew for conscientious investigators."

Professor Pupin states the object of his investigations as follows:

"The behavior of electrical discharges through poor vacua does not seem to have received the attention of experimental investigators which it deserves. This may seem strange in view of the uncertainty of our knowledge of the process by which the transfer of electricity through gases takes place. . . .

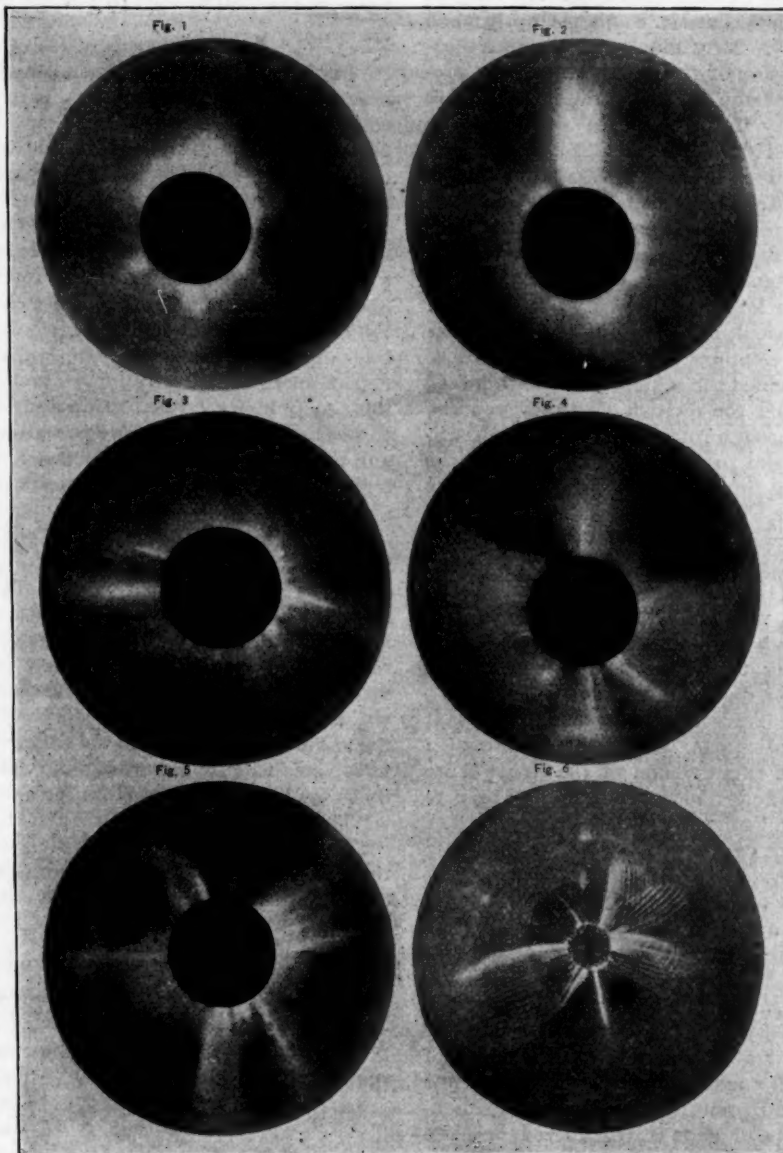
"The fact that electrical discharges in poor vacua resemble in many characteristic details the appearance and behavior of the solar corona, attaches additional interest and importance to that class of experimental investigations which are pointed out only in this paper. Neither time nor facilities permitted me to aim at anything approaching completeness. The principal aim in my presenting this paper was to recommend my subject and my method of investigating it to those who have command over a larger experience and skill in experimental investigations, and who also have more leisure and greater experimental facilities than I could even pretend to possess.

"A brief description of the method by which I obtained my vacuum discharges seems in place now. It consists in producing an electrical current in a vacuum by means of the condenser effect of

tinfoil coatings or other conductors placed on the outside of a vacuum-jar."

Passing over the interesting descriptions of the Professor's preliminary experiments, in which he establishes many valuable laws regarding the passage of electricity through gases under low pressure, we pass at once to that part of his investigations in which the solar phenomena are reproduced, or at least imitated. The particular form of apparatus used in this case is thus described:

"A large glass bulb was coated with tinfoil along those parts of its external surface which would approximately correspond to its temperate zones, its neck being one of the poles. This tinfoil coating had a wire attached to it by means of which it could be connected to the pole of the induction-coil, and serve as an electrode of the bulb. The other electrode was a brass sphere at-



THE SOLAR CORONA IMITATED BY ELECTRICAL DISCHARGES.
(By courtesy of *The Electrical Age*.)

tached to a brass rod. This brass rod was surrounded by a glass tube, and the space between the two was filled with sealing-wax. In this arrangement the pressure could be varied between very wide limits (up to about 100 mm.), without running the risk of refusal on the part of the induction-coil to force a discharge through. A camera was placed in front of the bulb and the discharges photographed. Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 are photographs of the discharges obtained in this manner, but in various degrees of rarefaction."

Professor Pupin's discussion of one of the cases—that represented in the illustration at Fig. 6—is as follows:

"In this case the vacuum was very poor (about 60 mm. pressure). The discharge started in the form of four large streamers, together with a very large number of short luminous jets which were more or less uniformly distributed over the sphere. In consequence of these jets the appearance of the sphere reminded one very much of the granular structure of the sun's disk as revealed by Rutherford's, Janssen's, and Vogel's photographs of the sun. Very luminous spots appeared from time to time at several points of the surface, which reminded one very much of the sun's faculae. Both the jets and the large streamers rotated rapidly. This rotation is indicated very plainly in the photograph; for the number of streamers in each wing represents the number of maxima in the alternating discharge during the time of the exposure, which was a small fraction of a second. The thickest streamers indicate the place where the discharge started. It is evident that the streamers were distributed nearly systematically over the sphere at the start of the discharge; and that then one half of them were gradually and almost uniformly displaced in the direction of the motion of the hands of a watch, the other half in the opposite direction. The peculiar curvature of some of these streamers indicates the presence of two kinds of motion—one a translational along the prolongation of the radii of the small sphere, and the other a rotational. It was this rotational motion which led me to assume that there must be some sort of repulsive action between the streamers of a vacuum discharge."

Chemistry's Aid to Pharmacy.—"Chemistry has done more to relieve the medical art of the opprobrium of nauseous dosage than any other and all influences combined," says the *Buffalo Medical Journal* (April). "It extracts juices, alkaloids, and other concentrated principles from crude mineral and vegetable sources, and serves them up to us in minute doses that are both potent and agreeable. Synthetic chemistry, too, is a marvel of scientific accomplishment and is destined to become as useful as it is curious. It not only produces many useful drugs of the antipyretic and hypnotic series from coal-tar, but it has lately turned its attention to the production of artificial musk from the same source. Tho this is not chemically the same as real musk, its scent is undistinguishable from the latter, and it threatens to drive the real article out of the market. One of the greatest commercial triumphs in the way of an artificial flavoring is vanillin. This product is keeping down the price of vanilla beans, and it is likely, too, to drive the latter out of the market. Chemists know how to counterfeit lactic acid, and they make an artificial citric acid which can not be detected from the sour of the lemon. It is hardly possible to determine what may be the ultimate results of these counterfeiting processes, but they are somewhat startling to contemplate and furnish a subject for serious thought."

A Substitute for Amputation.—A new and simple mode of treatment has been introduced in France, by which, it is claimed, a large proportion of injured limbs now usually amputated can be saved. The method, which is due to Dr. Reclus, was recently described before the French Congress of Surgery, and is thus explained by *The Hospital*, April 18: "Whatever the extent or gravity of the lesions, he [Dr. Reclus] never, under any circumstances, amputates the injured limb, but merely wraps it in antiseptic substances by a veritable 'embalming' process, leaving nature to separate the dead from the living tissues. This method of treatment possesses the double advantage of being much less fatal than surgical exeresis, and of preserving for the use of the patient, if not the entire limb, at any rate a much larger part than would be left after amputation. He advocates this very

conservative treatment on account of the excellent effects of hot water, which he uses freely. After the skin has been shaved and cleansed from all fatty substances by ether, etc., in the usual way, a jet of hot water 60° to 62° C. [140° to 144°] but not higher, is made to irrigate all the injured surfaces, and to penetrate into all the hollows and under all the detached parts of the wound, without exception. This is the only way of removing all clots, and to wash away all foreign bodies, together with the micro-organisms they may contain. The advantages of hot water at this high temperature are threefold—(1) hot water at this temperature is antiseptic, heat greatly increases the potency of antiseptic substances; (2) is hemostatic [that is, stanches the flow of blood]; (3) it helps to compensate for the loss of heat, resulting from the bleeding, and especially from the traumatic shock. After the 'embalming' process, and the dead tissue has been separated from the living, the surgeon has nothing to do except to divide the bone at a suitable spot. According to Reclus, the results obtained are remarkable."

Balloons in Scientific Observation.—"The last number of the Proceedings of the German Geographical Society," says *Ciel et Terre*, "contains a paper by Dr. A. Berson on the use of balloons in geographical explorations. As Dr. Berson has made numerous scientific ascensions, both in free and in captive balloons, his observations are extremely interesting. He notes the importance of captive balloons in Arctic exploration, and regrets that Dr. Nansen abandoned this method of investigation, which he had at first intended to employ. Dr. Berson condemns energetically the project of M. Andrée, of trying to reach the Pole in a free balloon; he is convinced that this aerial trip, if it should be carried out, will lead to a disaster. In his many ascensions, M. Berson has met with every kind of meteorologic condition, and in all seasons he has found that the temperature at high altitudes decreases more rapidly, or at least quite as rapidly, as at low altitudes, and that at heights exceeding 5,000 meters [16,400 feet] there exist temperatures lower than those deduced from the ascensions of Glaisher. Likewise the increase in the speed of the currents, as one gets higher and higher, is greater than has been supposed. In one ascension, when the velocity of the air was only 11 kilometers [7 miles] an hour between the height of 1,000 metres [3,280 feet] and 3,000 meters [9,840 feet], this velocity attained, between 4,000 and 6,000 meters, to nearly 60 kilometers [37 miles] an hour. A marked preponderance of winds with a westerly component was also proved at great altitudes—a fact which confirms the observations of clouds made from the surface of the earth."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"UNDOUBTEDLY," says Prof. Oliver Lodge in *The Electrician*, London, "the X rays do not start from the cathode or from anything attached to the cathode, but do start from a surface upon which the cathode rays strike, whether it be an actual anode or only an 'anti-cathodic' surface. Best, however, if it be an actual anode. I suggested the term 'anode-rays,' therefore, while Prof. S. P. Thompson prefers the term 'anti-cathodic rays;' but probably the term used by Röntgen is still the best at present."

THE Institute Pasteur, Paris, has just published its report for 1895. "The salient feature of the statement," says *The Medical News*, "appears to be that of 1,523 persons treated only 5 succumbed to their injuries. In the fatal cases the symptoms of rabies manifested themselves within fifteen days after the first inoculation; one patient, however, was seized with rabies during the course of the treatment, and has not been included in the figures. A table of statistics contains the figures commencing from 1886, showing that of the 2,671 persons treated in that year 25 died, or a mortality of .94 per cent., while in 1895, of the 1,523 treated only 5 died, or a mortality of .33 per cent."

"It is becoming a fashion, and by no means a bad one either," says *The Age of Steel*, "for some industrial plants to celebrate certain events in their history that are worthy of such occasions. Some recent instances of these celebrations have been furnished in Germany. In one case the production of the second millionth ton of basic steel was the occasion of a red-letter day. Another celebrated its twenty-fifth birthday, and the completion in that period of nearly three thousand locomotives. Each of these may have but local significance, but they certainly do a good work in placing the industrial concerns of a country on the high plane of importance they practically deserve, but which is too seldom accorded them."

DR. J. MOUNT BLEYER has invented an instrument which he calls a photo-fluoroscope," says *Electricity*. "It consists essentially of a camera-box or fluoroscope with a hinged fluorescent screen door at the objective end, which when closed enables the operator to explore the field before exposing the sensitive plate. Heretofore Röntgen photography has been pursued under the disadvantage that it was not known until after the plate was developed whether the object to be photographed were advantageously located with regard to the tube and screen or not. This new arrangement will be to Röntgen photography very much what the ground-glass focusing screen is to ordinary photography. The proper focus having been obtained, the sensitive plate is inserted and the exposure made."

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE WORKING-CLASSES.

IT is acknowledged by many serious minds that there is almost a crisis in the existing relation between the Gospel and the labor problem. Writing on the subject of "What the Working Classes Owe to Christianity" (*Bibliotheca Sacra*, April), the Rev. George Francis Greene says that never were the opposing forces of Christ and Belial striving so zealously for the favor of the workingman; and he quotes "a thoughtful writer" as saying: "The future is pregnant with the gravest potentialities for religion. We are not far off the cross-roads, one of which leads to a truly Christian haven and the other to practical atheism." Mr. Greene does not believe that Christianity can long survive without the faith of the common people. He recalls the fact that it was this class that gave kindest welcome to Jesus, and notes that the loyalty of a thousand serving-men was apparently more sought by apostolic teachers than the favor of one Herod or Augustus. And it is true in the nineteenth century, says he, as it was in the first, that the bone and sinew of the church is found among the plain and lowly. Among other authorities on the attitude of the working-classes toward the church, Mr. Greene quotes Mr. Moody as saying that "the gulf between the church and the masses is growing deeper, wider, and darker every hour." Nevertheless Mr. Greene believes that the attitude of the working classes toward Christianity, or toward the divine Person, is a question separate from their position toward the church. "The visible church," he remarks, "is not Christ any more than a cloak is a part of the man it covers." He does not believe that a majority of the workingmen are anti-Christian.

Mr. Greene proceeds to investigate the condition of the workingman in the civilized world when Christ appeared, and points out that in Greece and Rome no value attached to the individual in virtue of his manhood; that individual life was nothing save as it could be of service to the state; that the idea of human brotherhood was entirely wanting; that the enormous slave population in Rome, for instance, was regarded neither in philosophy nor law as entitled to the rights of humanity. Such being the condition of the working-people at the point when Christ appeared, what, asks the writer, was the message that the New Testament brought to them? He says:

"The Gospel of Christ places, over against the contempt for life shown by the Romans, supreme value upon the individual, and everything pertaining to the individual. The Gospel teaches that man bears the divine image; and the necessary consequence of this teaching is to ennoble the conception of man, and give respect to human life, and all that concerns it. Neither in Buddhism nor Brahmanism is any relationship to God found in the human soul; and consequently these religions, like the philosophies of Rome and Athens, fall infinitely short of Christianity in the value they ascribe to man in virtue of his manhood. Indeed, Christianity appears to be the only religion which demands respect for the individual on the ground of the reflection of the divine life in every human soul. Thus in theory Christianity levels all class distinctions. Or, rather, it brushes aside all arbitrary or purely human classifications of men, and redivides them into two classes—the righteous and the unrighteous. There is no social aristocracy in the kingdom of God; only an aristocracy of belief."

Mr. Greene goes on to say that no effect of early Christianity was more pronounced than the elevation of labor to a nobler plane than it had ever occupied under pagan influences; that wherever the Gospel was accepted, the foundations of slavery began to be undermined; that the law of Christian philanthropy has been behind every movement for the advancement of the workingman. In answer to the question, "What does the Gospel of Christ now offer to do for the working-classes in the direction of the abolition of poverty?" he says:

"It is significant that the capacity of the Gospel to solve the problem of poverty, coextensively with the problem of sin, is recognized by many socialistic leaders. Of course we do not expect the New Testament to receive fair treatment from a nihilist, like Bakunin, or an apostle of a materialistic philosophy, like Karl Marx. But let us listen to such testimonies as the following: Henry George has said, 'The salvation of society, the hope for the free, full development of humanity, is in the gospel of brotherhood—the Gospel of Christ.' Raffaele Mariano, an Italian socialist, declares, 'No religion corresponds more to humane and social ideas than the Christian.' Le Play, a socialist who receives high praise as a thinker from Kaufmann in his 'Christian Socialism,' pays this tribute to Christianity, 'There is no room for doubt that Christianity remains the first requisite of humanity, and that nations living under a liberal régime like ours must be brought back to it, not only by divine grace, but also from a desire of their own well-being.' There is surely encouragement in the tone of these utterances for those who have been fearing lest the Great Teacher has been losing His hold upon the masses. Probably the truth is that the majority of the working-classes have at heart the same regard for Christ as is evinced in the tributes just quoted. 'It has been repeatedly said by workingmen that they do not disbelieve in Christianity, but in "Churchianity." If the larger portion of those of this class who are indifferent toward the church are really ready to respond to the touch of Jesus, the figures recently given by Dr. Strong concerning the church-going habits of the masses in our American cities are not quite so appalling as appears at first glance.

"Irrespective of the inquiry as to whether any sort of socialism can be deduced from the New Testament, it is to be observed that the teachings of Jesus certainly work to destroy the seeds from which poverty grows. They war against poverty in two fundamental ways. They attack both the outward and the inward causes of it. We believe the claim is just that a man who obeyed the Gospel, and dwelt in a community whose members obeyed the Gospel, could not long remain in a state of severe want. A ripple of applause spread over the audience at a meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church several years since, at the witty remark of a speaker in answer to the criticism that the poor were not as a rule found in Christian churches. Said he, 'It is not the church's fault if its members are not poor. When the poor join our ranks, they begin to outgrow their poverty, they cease to be poor.' We believe there is more than a suggestion of serious truth in this playful statement with respect to the logical social effects of Christianity among the poor."

A NEW HERESY CASE.

THE Presbyterian Church has a new heresy case on its hands which promises to lead to some interesting developments. The alleged heretic is Rev. Frank Buffington Vrooman, of Chicago. Mr. Vrooman is a graduate of Harvard and has spent some time in study at Oxford and Berlin. For the past year or two he has been supplying the pulpits of Presbyterian and Congregational churches in the neighborhood of Chicago. Recently Mr. Vrooman received a call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Kenwood, a suburb of Chicago, and he applied for admission to the local Presbytery. Coming from another ecclesiastical body, he was required to subscribe to the Presbyterian standards, but before he was permitted to do that, the desire was expressed by members of the Presbytery that he be examined as to his doctrinal views. As the examination proceeded the impression was made that Mr. Vrooman was not clear in his views as to what are regarded as fundamental points in the Presbyterian system alone, but as fundamental to the more comprehensive evangelical system. The points were, the authority of the Scriptures, the Trinity, the Atonement, and the state of the finally impenitent. Owing to the apparent difficulties of the case, a second examination of Mr. Vrooman was held at a subsequent date at which he was permitted to read a carefully prepared statement of his views before the Presbyter. In this statement Mr. Vrooman said with reference to certain questions respecting the Presbyte-

rian Confession of Faith, that where Christ is spoken of as securing redemption through His blood, as being the propitiation for our sins, he rejected absolutely the idea that God required blood to be satisfied; that the word reconciliation or atonement always referred to the reconciling of man to God and not God to man. In reply to questions as to the nature of justification and sanctification he said he did not know the difference between the two. In reply to the question as to whether he believed that any would be ceaselessly and endlessly punished he said: "I do not." Notwithstanding these answers, the Presbytery voted to receive Mr. Vrooman by a vote of 69 to 29. Subsequently it was discovered that Mr. Vrooman had written an article in *The Arena* in 1894 in which he expressed himself very freely concerning the modern interpretation of the Bible. On account of the views expressed in this magazine article and because of Mr. Vrooman's utterances before the Presbytery, it was determined to file a complaint to the Synod of Illinois against the action of the Chicago Presbytery. In consequence of this Mr. Vrooman will not be installed as pastor of the church at Kenwood until his case is passed upon by the higher courts of the Presbyterian Church. We append some comments from the religious press on the present status of this case. *The Mid-Continent* (Presbyterian, St. Louis) says:

"The Presbytery took the very grave responsibility of admitting Mr. Vrooman, and he subscribed to a creed which as a system of doctrine and in its plain and historical sense we fear is obnoxious to his convictions. How he could do this is an intellectual and moral puzzle. It is only justice to Mr. Vrooman to say he *endeavored* to do it with a mental reserve and in a modified form, saying in his paper that he could take the Confession as he 'conceived it' and could sign the standards according to his own way of 'defining and interpreting them.' Of course no such mode of subscription has been provided for. He claimed liberty of conscience and of intellect. So do we. He denied the right of any man to impose human standards upon him in the matter of the Bible. So do we. And the Presbyterian Church is not *forcing* them on him. If he takes them it is entirely his voluntary act. He comes of his own accord and asks to be an accredited Presbyterian minister and to serve as a teacher in our pulpits. Very well—here are the terms of admission to our ministry. All the rest of us submitted to them. He can not be made an exception in the mode of subscription. He is not obliged, however, to assume any relation to our standards at all. The world is large and other pulpits there are which are not of this fold. Only, as a matter of historical fact the gateway of the *Presbyterian* ministry is through the subscription vows embedded in her constitution."

The Presbyterian Banner (Pittsburg) also expresses a strong adverse view. It says:

"The more the case of Mr. Vrooman and the action of the Chicago Presbytery is looked into, the more amazing does it appear that a man holding such views as he expressed in an article in *The Arena* for March, 1894, would dare to seek a place in the Presbyterian Church, and it becomes still more amazing that after the answers given to the questions proposed to him on his examination, the Presbytery of Chicago received him by a vote of 69 to 29. His statements respecting the propitiation of Christ, the imputation of His righteousness, and the state of the finally impenitent, notwithstanding all the qualifications and forced admissions made by him, ought to have excluded him, not only from every presbytery in connection with the General Assembly, but also from every orthodox denomination."

The North and West (Presbyterian, Minneapolis) says:

"Rev. Frank B. Vrooman, the Congregational minister who was called to our new church in Kenwood, Chicago, has not made much study of dogmatics. He has been at work in the humanities. He was not aware of fine points of our theology. So when the Kentuckians of McCormick Seminary put him on the quiz block, he was not able to satisfy them that he was thoroughly sound in the Confession of Faith. Dr. Bryan was not pleased because the brother thought Christ's death was in order to reconcile man to God, and wanted him to say that the Atonement satisfied the justice of God. He instanced 'Just as I am' as a hymn

which the candidate could scarcely sing. Mr. Vrooman instantly turned his examiner's flank by responding: 'I am glad you quoted a hymn which I love, and particularly that line, "But that thy blood was shed for me." Christ's blood was shed for me and not for God.' The candidate believes in the Trinity, but has no metaphysical theory concerning it. He adopts the Confession as his statement of inspiration, but declines certain interpretations of it. He was vague and uncertain at one point in eschatology, but holds that punishment will continue as long as sin does. No one seems to have asked him what Christ taught with regard to the peril of 'eternal sin.'"

The Universalist (Chicago) reviews the statements made by Mr. Vrooman in his examination, and then says:

"It would seem for this that Mr. Vrooman is in a good way to become noted among the Presbyterians even before he is installed over his church. Just now he occupies an anomalous position. He is accepted by a vote of Presbytery, despite some very free views of Westminster standards and a general agnosticism touching pivotal points of the faith, but he is under practical suspension by the appeal to the Synod to review the case. He may be said to be in a state of suspended animation: in the Presbytery, but not of it, and likely to be cast out before he is fully admitted.

"His name stays on the roll, but there is good ground for anticipating a judgment that he can not be installed as a Presbyterian pastor. On the whole the Vrooman case presents some interesting features from a constitutional standpoint even before his heretical opinions are made the subject of investigation."

CONGREGATIONALISTS AND THE UNITARIANS.

CONSIDERABLE comment has been caused by a number of pulpit exchanges in Boston and vicinity recently between pastors of the Congregational and the Unitarian churches. In one instance Rev. Dr. Samuel Herrick, of the Mount Vernon Congregational church, exchanged with Rev. Dr. Edward E. Hale, of the South Congregational (Unitarian) church, and in another case there was an exchange between Rev. Dr. John Cuckson, of the Arlington Street Unitarian church, and Rev. Dr. Theodore Munger, of the Congregational church of New Haven. Another incident in the same line was the election of Rev. Dr. Herrick and Rev. Dr. George A. Gordon, both Congregationalists, to the Boston Ministers' Association, a Unitarian body. An attempt has been made in some quarters to read into these incidents a larger significance than the facts warranted. It was said to indicate a possible union between the Trinitarians and the Unitarians holding to the Congregational form of church government, a healing over of the breach between these two bodies which began eighty years ago. But the denominational organs of both sides declare that these exchanges had no such meaning. They signified, it is said, little or nothing more than the existence of a kindly and fraternal spirit between the pastors making the exchanges; they had nothing to do with theological differences. Thus *The Christian Register*, speaking for the Unitarians, says:

"It may not be possible even for two such strong men as Dr. Hale and Dr. Herrick to heal the breach between two religious denominations or two halves of the same body, but they are undoubtedly glad to do what they can toward it. As both of these prominent clergymen are strong Congregationalists, they would be prompt to say, if necessary, that their action in exchanging pulpits does not implicate any other churches than their own or any other ministers than themselves. This is by no means the first time that Trinitarian and Unitarian Congregational ministers have exchanged with each other since the separation of these bodies. Such exchanges are destined to become more frequent, especially as neither in the Orthodox nor the Unitarian body is there any law forbidding it. It is a matter solely between individual churches and ministers. Nor does action of this kind imply identity of opinion or conviction upon theological issues. It does imply relations of fraternal and professional fellowship,

that each regards the other as a minister of the Gospel and as worthy to feed his own or his neighbor's flock."

The Congregationalist hastens to deny that there was anything more in these exchanges than an expression of Christian trust and fellowship. It says:

"There is no concerted movement—only a coincidence of the expression of fraternal love and trust between individuals who are loved and trusted by the whole city of Boston. That cordial relations have long existed among the ministers named in the report is well known, and no one would wish to have it otherwise. They have long been associated in many undertakings on the benevolent and social side of church activity, but the doctrinal significance of the matter has been exaggerated for purposes of sensation by the newspapers. We know of no movement toward Unitarianism among our Boston ministers, nor is any one of the pastors named above open to the charge of denying the divinity of our Lord.

"It is true, on the other hand, that every minister who asks or accepts an exchange does publicly indorse the minister with whom he exchanges as a trustworthy teacher of Christianity for his own people. In view of the precedent established this will seem to many a very grave responsibility. They will fear that it is a letting out of waters which it may be difficult to control. It is not true, however, as the papers which have commented upon this exchange of pulpits have implied, that there has been a total interruption of cooperative relations between the Unitarian and Trinitarian ministers of Boston for eighty years."

The Outlook refers thus briefly to the situation:

"This action (the exchanges) does not imply that any of the ministers surrendered in the least their distinguishing convictions, but only that they recognize that the field in which they agree is larger than that in which they differ. Large cooperation is possible, and this is a worthy movement in the direction of Christian unity."

The Boston correspondent of *The Gospel Banner* (Universalist, Augusta, Me.) is one of those who see a deeper significance in these pulpit courtesies. After referring to the controversies which disrupted the New England churches in 1815-20, this writer says:

"The Universalists still stand on Bible ground, resting their doctrine very largely upon it. The Unitarians have thrown the Bible aside as an authority on doctrines, in relation to destiny or immortality, or faith. But the orthodox are more ready to forgive and affiliate with them than with us. The men who are to exchange with Dr. Hale, Rev. Dr. Ames, and Rev. Dr. Cuckson are progressive Congregationalists, and are verging toward Unitarianism in thought and philosophy. It is a good thing that they are, and it is hoped that they will draw their entire denomination with them. Those fraternal greetings are a concession to reason and liberal thought in theology. These scholarly, large-minded men are a long ways ahead of the rank and file of the evangelical churches and preachers, but that which shines in darkness expels the darkness at last, and finds its way to the darkened understandings of men."

The whole situation from a Unitarian point of view is fully and ably summed up in a subsequent letter from Rev. Dr. Cuckson in *The Congregationalist*, from which we make the following extract:

"Let me thank you for your brief editorial on Pulpit Exchanges with Unitarians, and, at the same time, permit me to express my sincere regret that acts of liberal courtesy between ministers of various religious bodies should ever be misunderstood. At the last meeting of the Boston Association of Ministers, held at my house, Drs. Gordon and Herrick were elected members of the association. Their election meant nothing more than the renewal of friendly relations between Congregational ministers, Unitarian and Trinitarian, in the city of Boston, which had in a measure been disturbed about half a century ago. In the course of conversation several ministers spoke warmly of the social reunion and talked of exchanges of pulpit hospitality. The talk was in the nature of a privileged communication, as all such talk is presumed to be at a private meeting of ministers. But some one, with more conceit than consideration, detailed to a newspaper

reporter all that had occurred and more, and left the impression on the public mind that what was a mere personal approach, based upon mutual respect and friendship, was something in the nature of a concession to doctrine. Nothing could be further from the truth. Dr. Hale and Dr. Herrick, Dr. Gordon and Dr. Donald, Dr. Munger and myself are not going to influence each other theologically. In matters of religious opinion we differ in many respects and differ widely, but is this difference, which everybody knows who knows us at all, to set us apart altogether, to isolate us as if we had nothing in common, to prevent us or our parishes from being neighborly and setting an example of catholicity in the midst of divergence? As ministers of Christ there is much in common between us and we feel it, and if we come together for any purpose, whether devotional, philanthropic, or friendly, the union is moral and spiritual, not theological, and is a protest against dogmatic hatred and jealousy. The truths we represent are not going to suffer because of our Christian courtesy. We do not propose to swerve one hair's-breadth from our convictions, but it would seem as if we were willing to yield a good deal to Christian fellowship."

THE ABYSSINIAN CHURCH.

ON this timely and interesting subject, Professor Loofs, the church historian of the University of Halle, has published, chiefly on the basis of original researches, a detailed account in three long articles found in Nos. 14, 15, and 16 of the *Christliche Welt* of Leipsic. Among other things he says in substance:

With the exception of a small percentage of adherents of Mohammedanism and of the Falashas, or "Black Jews," of whom there are about 300,000 in Abyssinia, and of the heathen Gallas in the south, the Abyssinians are all Christians, and really belong to the oldest Christian nations of the globe, having kept their national and ecclesiastical organizations intact, even against the Moslem attacks of the centuries, ever since the fourth century. It is commonly estimated that there are from three to four million Christians in Abyssinia, but this is evidently an exaggeration. Gerhard Rohlfs, who visited Abyssinia officially as a representative of the German Government, reports in his work entitled "Meine Mission in Abyssinien" that the number can not exceed one and a half millions.

It is a strange phenomenon that the highest ecclesiastical official in the country, the *Abuna* (literally "Our Father"), the head in fact, only, bishop of the land, must always be a Copt and can never be a native Abyssinian. In former days the Viceroy of Egypt was accustomed to charge the Abyssinian Government a heavy tribute in payment for their Abuna. Even against the King the Abuna at times maintains his authority, altho against a determined ruler he can do nothing. When in 1868 the Abuna excommunicated the ferocious King Theodorus, the same that caused the English expedition of that year and the capture of the capital city Magdala, the king coolly drew his revolver and holding it to the temple of the prostrate Abuna, said: "Dear Father, I beg of you your blessing!" Quite naturally it was no longer refused.

The Abuna resides in Gondar and is the head of the church. The stage in the hierarchy is represented by the archpriests, and then come the four stages of priest, subpresbyter, deacon, and sub-deacon. The only rival in authority which the Abuna has is the head prior of the monks, a powerful class, who is officially called *Etshege*, and resides in the monastery of Dabra Lebanor in Shoa. Rohlfs met this official in company with the negus or king, and declares that he was a cultivated and highly educated gentleman, much more so than any other representative of the Abyssinian clergy that he met. A strange official is the *Nebreid*, who resides in Axum, the old capital in the north. He is the manager of the church property throughout the country, and a great portion of Abyssinia belongs to the church. His representatives in the various churches are the *Debtaras*, who are at least able to read and write and are versed in the laws of the country. They are, however, laymen, notwithstanding the fact that they take a leading part in the public services, notably in the singing of the liturgy. As a rule the monks are not active in church services or work, altho they have as a rule received a lower grade of ordination. There is an abundance of cloisters in Abyssinia, and Rohlfs has

visited a monastery in Northern Abyssinia in which there were fully a thousand inmates. Yet the monk priests need not confine their activity to their monasteries; they are also permitted to hear auricular confessions and absolve the Abyssinian Christians.

It is difficult to determine how large the clerical profession in Abyssinia is numerically. The traveler Henglin, who visited the country in 1861 and 1862, computes that there must be at least 12,000 priests and monks altogether, and declares that the bulk of these are drones living on the labor of the common people. It is, however, doubtful if the charge of idleness can be proved against the Abyssinian priests. The superior clergy have political and administrative duties to perform as well as ecclesiastical, and are kept busier than the clergy in the Eastern churches generally are. In regard to numbers it would seem that Henglin's figures are really too low. Some travelers report that a single village church has as high as twenty priests, and that the city of Gondar alone, which is really but an insignificant town of 4,000 souls, has "several hundred" priests.

The church is the leading factor and force of Abyssinian life and history. Above everything else Abyssinia is a Christian nation and people. The reason of this lies in the national character of the people and in the type of Christianity here represented. The people are Semitic and as such intensely religious and conservative. For more than a dozen centuries the Abyssinians have maintained a life-and-death struggle for their peculiar religious tenets against the aggressive assaults of the Mohammedan propaganda. Naturally they are intensely religious, or, at any rate, intensely ecclesiastical. Morally the priesthood does not stand high, and is really more feared than loved by the people at large. Rohlfs expresses his utmost astonishment that a certain priest who had found three dollars lost by himself actually returned them of his own free-will, because his conscience was troubled. The German traveler regards this as an entirely unique case among the Abyssinian clergy.

As a rule, a man does not enter the priesthood until he is married, as in Abyssinia, similarly to other Oriental churches, a priest is not allowed to marry after his ordination. No special training is needed for this office, the chief prerequisite being that the candidate must be able to recite the Nicene creed by heart and be able mechanically to go through the prescribed liturgy. It is not absolutely necessary that he be able to understand the old Abyssinian or Ethiopic language, in which his Bible and his liturgies are written, nor need he interpret them in the Amharic, the modern language of the country. The priest is not required to preach. They are no public schools in the whole length and breadth of the land; the few so-called "Learned Schools," or high-schools, found in the greater centers of population, are little if any more than an average common school in Europe or America. The clergy are dressed in a yellow garb, but the clothes in the course of time assume a dirty brown color. Among the Abyssinian priests, too, cleanliness is not regarded as next to Godliness, but rather the opposite is the case. Rohlfs declares that they regard it as a piece of exceptionally good piety to make as little use of water and soap as possible. This is especially true of the monks. Occasionally among the latter are found men quite well educated. The cloisters in which they live are not like those of Western countries, but rather like the caves and lauras of the old Egyptian monks. Thus in the province of the Uoldefa, between Gondar and Adowa, one traveler found a thousand monks living in seventeen different groups close together, in caves, etc. The monks cultivate the ground and beg whenever they have an opportunity. Of nuns there are but a comparatively small number, only a few thousands, and it is rarely that a woman enters their ranks until she is quite old.

The Christianity of the laity is in conformity with the character and teaching of such superiors. They patiently listen to services often hours in length, of which they understand practically nothing. They fast often and long. Abyssinia boasts of at least two hundred fast-days each year, having more than any other church in the Orient. Among church services nothing is more important in the eyes of the laity than the confessions, the priests having power to bind or to forgive sins.

Loofs discusses also the projects of mission work undertaken in the last century by both Protestants and Catholics in their efforts to bring new life into the dry bones of Abyssinian Christianity. He does not favor such enterprises, but thinks that as Abyssinian

and Armenian Christianity still have preserved their national organizations, efforts should be made to revive them, not from without, but from within and in conformity with their history and national and ecclesiastical peculiarities.—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

AS TO "SCHOLARSHIP" IN THE MINISTRY.

THE scholarship of American ministers of the Gospel has recently been a subject of discussion, it having been charged that our ministers generally are deficient in education. *The Watchman* (Boston, Baptist) thinks that the charge, even if proved, would not be fatally damaging. This paper suggests that there are other things that contribute more directly to the furnishing of a minister than a degree of technical scholarship that would pass muster at a university. While it has no faith in the so-called "short-cut" methods for any one who can possibly secure a thorough education, it is unable to regard what would be considered as "scholarship" in university circles so desirable for ministers as those who live in such circles sometimes deem it to be. The editor says:

"We must not forget that college presidents and professors usually attach a somewhat exaggerated importance to what they term 'scholarship.' College professors are usually 'scholars,' but are not commonly interesting or inspiring preachers. 'Dry as a professor' has become a byword in some college communities in which members of the faculty occasionally fill a local pulpit. And some of our best scholars are men who are not conspicuous for clear ideas, balance of mind, and the spiritual insight which are necessary for the minister.

"The truth is that men are something more than intellectual machines to be moved by a man who is a 'scholar.' They are cunningly made up of certain capacities of thought and feeling and imagination and of moral recognition. It is vastly more important that a minister should be a man than that he should be a technical scholar. He may even be ignorant of some of the newer theories of the composition of the Bible, and yet lay hold with a strong grasp of its central truths and present them with power.

"The education of a minister is a very complex thing. No one will suspect us of underestimating the worth of high scholastic training, but that is not everything. Home influences, early associations, natural vigor of mind, the faculty of expressing ideas with clearness and force and beauty, enter very largely into the equipment of a well-furnished minister, and, above all, the saving gift of common-sense which 'scholarship' does not impart, and, if limited to a single department, often weakens by disturbing the sense of proportion and the mental perspective.

"It is not a little curious that the men who most insist upon the supreme importance of 'scholarship' are, for the most part, those who have cultivated a section of a single department of knowledge, and they leave occasion for the inference that, in their opinion, eminence in the cultivation of their fad is the best title to the possession of scholarship. We have even known a 'higher critic'—we prefer the title 'minor critic'—who appeared to think that no minister could lay a claim to 'scholarship' who had not followed out and accepted the processes and conclusions of the exceedingly ingenious but disappointing theories of Wellhausen."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE extent to which the principles of the higher criticism of the Scriptures are accepted by some Christian scholars is indicated by this statement of Dean Farrar in *The Outlook*: "I can not name a single student or professor of any eminence in Great Britain who does not accept, with more or less modification, the main conclusions of the German school of critics."

SOME recent books on Eastern geography having questioned the current identification of Jebel Musa with Mount Sinai, Professor Hull, leader of the last surveying expedition to Arabia Petraea, comes to the defense of the traditional view. He urges his argument in view of the following considerations: (1) That the position of Jebel Musa was in accordance with the account in Exodus of the journeys of the Israelites from the Red Sea (Gulf of Suez) to Sinai; (2) also with that from Sinai to Ezion Geber (Akabah) and Kadesh Barnea; (3) that the physical features of Jebel Musa itself met the requirements of the Scripture narrative as regards camping-ground, water-supply, and pasture for the flocks and herds of the Israelites.

FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

DEVELOPMENTS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN QUESTION.

DURING the last week in April the Johannesburg conspirators, upon the advice of their counsel, pleaded guilty to the charge of having conspired against the Government of the South African Republic. Even the Conservative press in England acknowledged that this was the best thing the prisoners could do, as the proofs against them were overwhelming. *The Times* also acknowledged that conclusive proof was at hand that Cecil Rhodes, Alfred Beit, and Rutherford Harris—who only recently defended Cecil Rhodes against this charge in the press—were in league with the Johannesburg rebels. The Pretoria court sentenced Colonel Rhodes, Cecil Rhodes's brother, George Farrar, Lionel Phillips, J. W. Leonard, and John Hays Hammond (an American) to death. The sentence was made known immediately to Mr. Chamberlain, British Secretary of State for the Colonies, through private sources. Mr. Chamberlain immediately telegraphed to President Krüger that he had "informed Parliament that His Honor would pardon the prisoners." Mr. Chamberlain's action has highly gratified the Conservative press in Great Britain. *The Daily Telegraph* congratulates the Secretary for the Colonies on "having frustrated a renewal of President Krüger's clemency and magnanimity trick." *The Times* is of opinion that even the sentence of imprisonment against the leaders and the other sixty members of the rebel committee may not be carried out, because "it would paralyze business if such wealthy men are removed from the Rand." *The Globe* asserts that the Boers "dare not execute a death-sentence, therefore the whole proceeding is a farce." *The Standard* wants to know why the fact that Roman Dutch law—the law of the South African Republic—was invoked, was not made generally known in England, and also insists that the leaders should not be imprisoned, as such an act might hurt business on the Rand. All these papers have loudly demanded that only nominal punishment should be inflicted.

In the face of these demands for leniency toward conspirators, *The Patriot*, the organ of the Afrikaner Bond, recalled the following episode of South African history:

"When the Boers, during the first half of the present century, emigrated to what is at present the Orange Free State, the British Government set up the dogma that a British subject could not renounce his nationality without its permission. The Boers, having become British subjects by annexation, could not change their nationality by emigrating across the border, the country where they settled becoming British by their act. Therefore, when the Boers resisted British authority in their new homes, and were defeated by overwhelming forces at the battle of Boomplaats, eleven of their leaders were tried for high treason, sentenced to death, and hanged. The gallows broke under their weight, and their wives and children, who had been compelled to witness the execution, implored the governor for mercy. But none was granted. The gallows was raised again, and the prisoners were executed. The London *Times* regarded this as an instance of the stern majesty of the law. The same *Times* to-day regards anything above a merely nominal fine unjustly severe punishment for the Johannesburg conspirators, altho the latter have not been followed by an authority which they hate, but have sought to overthrow the government of a country which granted them hospitality."

In 1889, when the Boers of the Transvaal rose to drive the British out, after protesting in vain against the annexation for three years, a prize of \$5,000 each was offered for the capture of President (the Vice-President) Krüger, and Generals Joubert and Smith, while smaller sums were offered for the Secretary of State and the members of the Executive Committee. All these men, most of whom still hold high positions in the South African Republic, had been members of the administration before the an-

nexation. The proclamation in which their arrest was demanded offered the reward for their capture "alive or dead."

Of greater international importance than the trial of the Johannesburg rebels is the diplomatic defeat which Mr. Chamberlain has suffered at the hands of President Krüger. The latter has now refused definitely to go to England unless the convention of 1884 is revised. Mr. Chamberlain refuses to consider this question, and *The Westminster Gazette* sketches the present position thus:

"1. That the President is not at present likely to come to England.

"2. That, while the Boers surrendered their claim to the cessation of the rather vague English suzerainty, we, on the other hand, may have to abandon the idea of a drastic and immediate change in the internal affairs of the Transvaal.

"3. That, therefore, the best thing to hope for is the *status quo*, coupled with a real prospect of slow but sure amelioration of the Uitlanders' lot.

"4. That the Boer Government will listen to advice, but—with the past and Jameson in view—will not yield to strong pressure or the bullying of *The Times* and the Rhodesian press.

"5. That the sure end of the violent counsels now being pressed upon Mr. Chamberlain is civil war in South Africa, sustained on the British side by 30,000 troops, and accompanied by unimaginable horrors.

"6. And that such counsels simply strengthen the hands of the most conservative and obstinate party in the Transvaal."

In spite of this downright refusal of the President to allow interference with the Transvaal, the war-party is losing ground in England. Mr. Chamberlain has, indeed, made a speech at the Constitutional Club in which he asserted that the Transvaal Government is corrupt, and that England is the paramount power in South Africa, but he spoke of "restoring confidence and sympathy with England in a peaceful manner, and asked the country to be patient." The opinion of the Conservative press on this speech may be summarized in the words of *The Home News*, London, which says:

"Nothing less than Great Britain's title to be regarded as the paramount power has been at stake, and Mr. Chamberlain laid down once again two essential conditions. The first is that British supremacy must be maintained and recognized; the second, that the Dutch and the British, having to live together, can only enjoy peace and prosperity by mutual good-will and sympathy. Hence, while anxious to do nothing to wound the susceptibilities of the Transvaal, Mr. Chamberlain insists that the legitimate grievances of British subjects in the Rand must be remedied. Firmness and patience, he is confident, will bring about that highly desirable consummation."

On the part of the Radicals the "Rhodesian press," as *The Daily Chronicle* calls *The Times*, *News*, *Telegraph*, and others, is regarded as criminally neglectful of the interests of the country in continuing the crusade against the Boers. The Socialists go still further. *Justice*, in an article headed "Imperialist Judaism," says:

"We say it is high time that those who do not think that Beit, Barnato, Oppenheim, Rothschild & Co. ought to control the destinies of Englishmen at home, and of the Empire abroad, should come together and speak their mind. Let us not forget also that this bucaneeering and bloodshed is part of a great project for the constitution of an Anglo-Hebraic Empire in Africa, stretching from Egypt to Cape Colony and from Beira to Sierra Leone. That the endeavor to carry out this precious scheme for the extension of modern capitalist slavery through the dark continent will not improbably embroil us with two or more great powers concerns the loan-mongering fraternity, who now guide our policy, not at all. They have cash to lend to all nations. They make fortunes equally in war or in peace."

That war in South Africa would result in the defeat of Great Britain is the unanimous verdict of Europe outside of the British Isles. *The Temps*, Paris, says:

"Not only will the Boers defend to the last the national inde-

pendence, which they have earned with so much hardship on the battle-field, but many Anglo-South-Africans will also join in the cry, 'Africa for the Afrikanders!' Cecil Rhodes knows this and by holding out the hope of a United South Africa he obtained the support of the Afrikanders for six years. Jameson's raid has changed all this.

"But the people in England will not listen to warnings. They laugh and joke about Jameson's terrible deed, and only deplore that he failed. Instead of showing gratitude to Krüger and his burghers for their magnanimity, they revile the President because he does not come to England to witness the honors paid to Jameson."

The *Temps* does not doubt that public opinion in Germany will support the Government in anything that might be done with regard to South Africa, for the Germans are no less tired of the bullying tone of the British than the Boers.

In Germany the development of affairs is watched very calmly. *The Times* asserted that German officers had gone to South Africa to train the Boers. This piece of news proved to be spurious, and the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine*, Berlin, says such items would not be printed if the public were not so profoundly ignorant. "For," argues that paper—

"the Boers have a very efficient military organization of their own, and have no wish to change it for German tactics. Neither do the Germans wish to become masters of the Transvaal. The German Government is well acquainted with the power of resistance of the Boers, and would not undertake to subjugate them against their will; and it is quite evident that the Boers do not want any foreign government to rule them."

The *Vossische Zeitung* says:

"The Boers do not need any but diplomatic assistance from Germany. They can lick the English and defend their country without anybody's help. But is it not time that British ministers cease babbling of all sorts of possible and impossible deeds at clubs and meetings."

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, thinks the assertion that England is "paramount" in a quarter of the world where Germany has large possessions rather amusing, and adds: "Luckily the Boers know England. They are used to tall talk from British ministers and attack from English papers, and don't mind them."

—Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.



"AIN'T YOU GWINE TO COME OUTER DAT BRIER-PATCH, BRER RABBIT?"
SEZ BRER FOX, SEZEE. BUT BRER RABBIT AIN'T GOING TO COME OUT.
—The Westminster Gazette.

A RUMOR comes from Constantinople that the Sultan will cede Erzeroum and Trebizonde to the Czar. It is not unlikely that this rumor is started by disaffected Moslems. The Turks never forget that Russia is the hereditary enemy of the Crescent, and Sultan Abdul Aziz's assassination was caused by just such a rumor.

RUSSIA AND BULGARIA.

A LEADING paper in British India recently pointed out that Russia has done more to advance the cause of freedom and national independence among civilized nations than England, generally supposed to be the champion of right throughout the world. It would seem that Russia is about to justify the assertion of our contemporary in the case of Bulgaria. "Russia objected to a Catholic ruler in Bulgaria," says the *St. Petersburg Viedomosti*, "because Russia does not wish to find the state which has been liberated by her efforts converted into an open or tacit enemy." Now that Prince Ferdinand has caused his little son to become a member of the Orthodox Church, the Russian press has become very friendly to him. As the Russian papers express mainly the opinion of the Government, their attitude is a fair indication that Russia has no intention to rob Bulgaria of her independence. The *Sviet*, St. Petersburg, says:

"Russia welcomes the Prince who has been summoned by Providence to head a noble branch of the Slavonian race and to found a dynasty for the rising Bulgarian empire. Prince Ferdinand has ceased to be Prince of Coburg. The word of the Czar has elevated him to the dignity of hereditary ruler of Bulgaria, Russia recognizes him, and has sent her diplomatic agent to prove it. Bulgaria is no longer a vassal state. The Prince of Bulgaria may be certain that he will be supported by Russia whenever he asserts himself in his position. This descendant of French kings and Slavonian and Saxon princes is well fitted by nature to prove himself worthy of the high trust and the hopes which are placed in him."

These expressions are all the more remarkable as the Bulgarians do not regard themselves bound to submit to the Czar in religious matters. The Russian Church has lately endeavored to abolish the "schism," and claims authority over the Bulgarian Church, but the *Agence Balcanique*, Sofia, says:

"The Bulgarian people will not hear of such a thing, for the church of Bulgaria is as orthodox as that of Russia. To submit to a foreign power in religious affairs means nothing less than a renunciation of national ideals, and of this the Bulgarians are incapable. All parties, all political elements, protest. All papers, without exception, declare that the Exarch as head of the Bulgarian Church may not submit for national reasons. In political circles the 'schism' is never regarded in any way except from a political point of view. From a religious point of view the Bulgarians have never acknowledged the existence of a schism. They regard the Ecumenic Patriarch as the organ of Pan-Hellenic principles."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SOMETHING ABOUT DUELS.

ABOUT two years ago an anonymous writer began to disturb the Berlin Court by sending obscene letters to some of the ladies in attendance. Suspicion pointed to one of the chamberlains, a Baron Kotze, and the Emperor ordered that he should be tried like any ordinary criminal. Proof against him was, however, wanting, but society boycotted him. Finding his career ruined Kotze turned fiercely against his accusers, vowing that he would kill every one of them in duel or die in the attempt. He first challenged Baron Reischach, and was wounded. Finding that many people thought legal proceedings the better way to settle such differences, he brought action against v. Schrader, another Court official, but the case never came off, for Kotze discovered that the Court of Honor did not countenance it. He then challenged Schrader, and killed him in a duel fought at ten paces. The matter has been discussed before the German Parliament, but it is not likely that similar occurrences can be prevented in future. The *Kreuz-Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"As long as there are men with a strong individuality, the duel will exist, especially as it demands from the parties engaged in it a high amount of courage. It is very common in our times to

find parties engaged in a duel attacked in the press as if they had committed a great crime. But it should be remembered that a duel is a purely personal affair. Both the challenger and the challenged feel that the law does not meet their case; both are willing to undertake the greatest possible risk to prove their sincerity. It is a sacred duty to risk life in one's country's defense; it can not be wrong to risk it in defense of one's honor. If duels are fought in earnest always, they will not be very frequent, while at the same time a wholesome check is exercised upon individuals who would not fear to insult any one, were it not that brave words must be made good by brave deeds. The Deutsche Adelstag (convention of German nobles) objects to frivolous duels, but can not be prevailed upon to prohibit altogether the only means to obtain satisfaction where outraged honor is concerned."

Dueling is not very common in Germany, and it is not carried on in a manner to encourage bullies. Military and civil laws are enforced against it, and the seconds are punished as well as the principals. In the case of military men a court of honor decides whether a duel is necessary to avenge an insult or not. Its decision is final, and disobedience of its verdict is punished with expulsion from the army. In the case of civilians the challenged party generally has the choice of weapons, altho, in many cases, the choice is left to the seconds. The largest number of opponents to dueling are, in Germany, among persons whom the courts of honor do not count *satisfactionsfähig*, which means that their opinions are not of sufficient importance to risk life in refuting them. Newspaper editors and writers are, on the whole, among the people who are not *satisfactionsfähig*. But when one of them is given the chance to fight a duel there is no outcry against dueling in the press; as in the case of Polstorff, the *Kladderadatsch* editor, who was lauded highly when he fought with a reserve officer. The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, says:

"Men who have reason to regard their personal honor as their most valuable and sacred possession, and to repulse an attack upon their honor even at the risk of losing their lives, can find no other way to settle such disputes. Legal proceedings are highly unsatisfactory, and the punishment inflicted by law is entirely inadequate. In the present case the duel was fully justified. It would, however, be well if every duel, even in the case of civilians, were first submitted to the decision of a court of honor, and the army officers would do great service to the nation if they were willing to appoint a committee in every case where their decision is invoked, even if the parties are not military men."

The *Nation*, Berlin, thinks if pardon were less frequently granted to duelists dueling would gradually disappear. Maximilian Harden, in the *Zukunft*, hopes the Kotze-Schrader duel will decrease the influence of the courtiers. "Leave such matters to the military nobles exclusively," he says: "their sound common-sense will gradually abolish the duel." In the English press the difference is noted between the German and French duels. An encounter between a French leader of fashion and a playwright took place a few days after the Kotze-Schrader affair. The *barrière* was thirty paces, and nobody was hurt. The *Home News*, London, says:

"The German duel luridly illustrates the deadly reality of purpose with which the Teuton still persists in defending his honor, even with life itself, if the fates so will it; the French equally effectively exemplifies the usually harmless theatricalism of the meeting when the principals are Frenchmen."

But the English papers, on the whole, do not countenance such personal encounters, on the grounds that the justice of a quarrel can not be thus determined. The *St. James's Gazette* says:

"There was a genuine cause of quarrel between the two men, and they agreed to go on until one or other was disabled. Savage, unchristian, irrational—it may have been all that. But it was not a sham. And its tragic end should serve as a warning not to enter lightly into a quarrel. What is a nuisance in the dueling system as practised in some parts of the Continent, and what brings it into contempt, is the triviality of the reasons for

which a challenge may be given and, once given, must be accepted. But this is on the understanding that swords are to be struck up at the first trickle of blood, or that the pistols are only to be fired at a safe distance."

The *Westminster Gazette* also acknowledges that the Germans fight in earnest, but thinks the English view of duels by far the best. It says:

"If we take the general practise of the world as evidence of human tendencies, the odd thing is, not that Germans, Austrians, and Frenchmen act thus, but that Englishmen act differently. To us, the least logical nation in the world, as we are supposed to be, the duel, after some sixty years' desistance from it, seems the most absurd of human practises."

The *Tribuna*, Rome, in referring to the English view of duels, points out that it tends to encourage bullies. That paper argues as follows:

"Among Englishmen the most stinging insults are uttered, and even blows are given, and the aggrieved party has no redress. A man of sensitive temperament naturally shrinks from the publicity connected with court proceedings. And surely a small fine, inflicted upon one who has plenty of money, does not appear to meet such a case. In a fist-fight the advantage must always be with the stronger, even if both are equally skilful. In a duel with pistols both parties run equal risks, and the danger is so great that it protects high-strung but courageous men from gratuitous insult on the part of coarse but cowardly bullies."

The *Neue Ofener Zeitung*, Ofen, declares that a genuine, deadly duel will always be a test of that dash and daring which is supposed to distinguish genuine gentlemen from the common herd, and relates the following incident:

"R. and L., students at a Budapest technical college, quarreled over a girl, punched each other's heads, and came to the conclusion that it would be best to settle their difference after the manner of the Magyar nobles. Their seconds arranged a pistol-duel under the most deadly conditions. But the fight did not come off. L. made up his mind that a live dog is better than a dead lion any day, went to the police captain of his precinct, and informed him that he was about to break the law. The officer listened to the valiant knight with the utmost composure, and informed him that he knew all about the affair—as R. had reported it an hour before! The would-not-be duelists were sentenced to the minimum punishment under these circumstances. They got three days' cell each."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

A MOSLEM CRY FOR HELP.

NOT only the Armenians are tired of the rule of Abdul Hamid, a large portion of his Turkish subjects are equally dissatisfied. The periodical interference of Europe in Turkish affairs has given the administration of Turkey a slight veneer of liberal institutions; but as the people are not accustomed to assert themselves, the removal of barbarous restraint upon the officials has opened the way for all kinds of corruption. This has called to life the Young Turkish Party, which represents all Moslems who wish for honest rule. Its members are treated even more unceremoniously than the Armenians and other Christians, who enjoy to some extent the protection of Christian powers. Many of the best men among the Young Turks have been forced to fly, if they would escape the fate of those unfortunate students who were recently drowned by order of the Sultan. The organ of the Young Turks, the *Mechveret*, Paris, was recently suppressed. Upon complaints from the Sultan and Ahmed Riza, its editor, a former inspector of education in Turkey, was threatened with expulsion from France. But to all appearance the Young Turks can not be prevented from carrying on their agitation by anything the Turkish ambassadors may do. The Young Turks are now so desperate that they have even given up the hope of

saving the Ottoman Empire. "Any rule," they say, "is better than the present."

The Turkish Reform League has issued an appeal to the nations of Europe, from which we take the following:

"To the six chief governments of Europe it may appear that an amusing tho foolish comedy is being enacted before the eyes of the world at Stamboul (Constantinople). To us it means death. We have in vain appealed to Germany and England; we now appeal to all Europe to help us, even if the Ottoman Empire is broken up in consequence. The powers who signed the Treaty of Berlin are responsible for the horrible and increasing misrule which has made Turkey a charnel-house, altho their intention was doubtless to benefit us. Abdul Hamid has ruined Turkey by his avarice, treachery, and cowardice; he is surrounded by parasites of all nationalities; we, his subjects, Moslem and Christian alike, are reduced to the position of slaves. The only remedy is to remove the tyrant Caliph, who disgraces our religion and crushes the life out of the country you permit him to govern.

"We are told that our aims are not practicable. They would be practicable if the governments of Europe would do their duty. These governments have the power, but lack the will to rescue the nations suffering such wrongs. They could force the Dardanelles, surround Yildiz with marines, depose the Sultan and place him on board a gunboat, and not twenty lives would be lost in the resistance of the Palace Guard, while the people would applaud. A Council of Regents representing the six powers could hold the Empire and administer it. The first step would be the creation of an independent state under an Arab caliph at Mecca, including Yemen and Hedjaz, with Yeddah as a seaport. This would secure the holy places of Islam for the Mohammedan world, which is their rightful property and lawful demand.

"We tell you of the desires of our people in this way because their mouths are closed, and we call God to witness that we do not seek personal advantages. We are at war with the infamous alliance of Turks, Christians, Levantines, and financiers who sow discord in Turkey so that they may profit by the disturbance.

"One thing we desire to impress upon your minds—the whole system of plunder is directed from the Chamber of the Sultan. We do not attack the Ministers, because we know that they are powerless. There is now in Turkey no security for life, honor, and property. Rewards, decorations, and promotions are lavished upon miscreants who revel in murder, outrage, and felony. Yet Europe looks on unconcerned, as if this spectacle of falsehood, cunning, and bloodshed were but a theatrical performance. —Khalil Zia, Secretary."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

MORE ABOUT NANSEN AND HIS EXPEDITION.

CONFIRMATION of Frithjof Nansen's return from his voyage to the North Pole is still lacking, but the story can not yet be discredited, as it is very difficult to obtain news from Kolymsk at this time of the year. Meanwhile a few items of interest regarding the expedition are mentioned in the European press. Captain Croon, of Aurich, who was with the Wiggins's expedition to the Yenissei River in 1894, has communicated the following to the *Weser Zeitung*, Bremen:

"When we lost the *Stjernen* we found shelter at the Chabarowa station. From here we were transported in Samojed sledges drawn by reindeers. Our expedition was overtaken by a Russian who spoke a little German. He told me that he had furnished forty dogs to Nansen, whom he left at the most northerly point of Siberia—probably Cape Tcheluskin. He carried letters from Nansen, and was three months under way. He had been attacked by wolves, and was forced to leave the sledge containing the letters and packages entrusted to him to these brutes. He prevailed upon one of our Samojedes to go back with him. They took two sledges drawn by two reindeers each, and followed by two more as reserve. They also took several dogs and some provisions. I have never heard of these men again, and they are probably lost, for the winter had set in (October, 1894)."

The *Tägliche Rundschau*, Berlin, relates that two of Nansen's pigeons were captured last year during the autumn. One settled

on the Norwegian vessel *Elmerik* during a snow-storm in the White Sea. It carried a message from Nansen, but the captain could not understand it, and threw it away! The other pigeon settled on the steamer *Constantin*, but it had lost the tail-feather to which messages are generally attached. The *St. Petersburg Zeitung* thinks that news from Kolymsk can hardly be expected yet. That paper says:

"A messenger has been sent there to ascertain the truth of the report, but few people have an adequate idea of the difficulties of such a trip. The mean temperature there is 12° Celsius. The coldest inhabited place has a mean temperature of 16° Celsius. The winter begins in November, and there is no sign of spring until May, when the ice on the Lena River begins to break up. Snow-storms are very common, and the country is full of hungry wolves. The messengers have no easy task."

The Austrian explorer Payer expresses himself in the *Neue Freie Press*, Vienna, as follows:

"If Nansen has really reached the Pole, he has put into the shade all previous explorers, and his work will be of great value to science. Many geographical and meteorological questions will be answered. We will be informed whether there is land at the Pole, how the currents run, whether the ice is stronger or weaker; we will hear some interesting items about the temperature and the Northern-light effects. Nansen will be able to furnish a new isotherm, which is very much to be wished, for the last was obtained in Francis Joseph Land. It showed 16° Celsius."

Many scientists, nevertheless, regard the expedition as of little real value. The *Lokal-Anzeiger*, Berlin, has held an inquiry in that city, with the following results:

"Professor Kiepert, the geographer, said: 'Thus much is certain: If Nansen has succeeded in reaching his destination, he has done so under indescribable difficulties. Organic life is, as far as we know, most likely extinct in those regions. That Nansen is just the man to do incredible things he has proved by his trip across Greenland. The value of that trip is not as great as is generally supposed, and the value of the discovery of the North Pole seems to me rather limited, too. We geographers attach no great interest to it, and, politically, its value must be even less. Neither scientific nor material results will accrue from the voyage.'

"V. Richthofen, Director of the Berlin Geographical Institute, says: 'Such expeditions depend much upon the state of the weather. As we can not tell what kind of weather Nansen encountered, it is not wise to make guesses.'

"Professor Förster, of the Meteorological Institute, and Prof. v. d. Steiner, Chairman of the Geographical Society, expressed themselves equally cautious. Both declared that, as they had not been at the North Pole, they knew nothing about it, and were not going to indulge in idle talk. But if any one has the energy necessary to continue to the end, Nansen is the man."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

THE following incident is related by the Pretoria *Volkstem*: "The Schoolmaster of Rustenburg was showing his pupils a new dictionary, which contained a colored plate with the flags of different nations. Just then a tall, raw-boned backwoodsman entered the schoolroom, and, doffing his broad-brimmed hat to the master, asked permission to listen, which was readily granted. When the Union Jack was pointed out as the flag of England, the rancher shook his head, and asked if the British had lately changed their colors. Being told that the Union Jack had been England's flag for over two hundred years, he said that he could hardly believe that. 'I was at Broukhorstspriet,' he continued, 'and I was at Amajuba Hill, and at Krügersdorp. Each time the British hoisted their flag when the battle was ended, and it was always white!'"

APRIL, always a treacherous month, has this year sadly fooled the weather bureaus in Europe as well as here. Of Falb, the renowned Austrian "weather-maker," the following story is told: Falb, thinking that the weather good enough to make an excursion, hired a carriage for a drive in the country. Entering a village inn, he remarked to the hostlers that it was an exceptionally fine day. "It'll rain in the afternoon," was the answer. "How do you know," inquired the Professor, "did Falb say so?" "Oh, that fool Falb don't know!" "Well, does the newspaper say so?" "The newspaper fellers don't know either!" "How do you know, then?" "Well, you see, we've got an old brindle cow in the stable; whenever she rubs her hindquarters against the wall, it's going to rain. You can hear her rubbing now." It rained, true enough, and the New York *Staats-Zeitung* suggests that Farmer Dunn hire that cow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NO NEW WOMAN?

A CORRESPONDENT asks *The Tribune* for information concerning the New Woman—who she is, what she is, where she is to be found, and what are her distinctive characteristics. *The Tribune* says that this correspondent is neither a backwoods barbarian nor a cynical jester. He asks in good faith, and sober earnest, questions which have greatly puzzled him and which have probably puzzled many others. He has heard much of the New Woman and her ways. He has read of her. He has seen pictures or caricatures of her. But never has he been able to find her, in her own proper person, nor to discover her habitat. To quote:

"The answer to his questions may, however, readily be given, and may be given seriously, in the self-same spirit of his asking. It is simply this, that there is really no such person as the New Woman. She is nothing but a supposititious fad, a figment of the masculine imagination. She has no real existence, unless in remotely isolated individual cases. Generically, she does not exist, any more than the rampageous mother-in-law, the Vassar-bred housekeeper and her deadly cookery, the flirtatious and designing typewriter, and all the other items, singular and collective, of the professional caricaturist's stock in trade. There may be such creatures. 'There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamed of in your philosophy.' But for all practical purposes they may as well be classed with the jabberwock, the gysacutus, and boojum snark.

"Our correspondent may, however, gain some light upon the subject which has interested him if he will turn back to the files of nearly a generation ago, and refresh his memory of *The Saturday Review's* famous articles on 'The Girl of the Period.' She was a greater sensation in her day and generation, was that Girl, than is the New Woman now, when the century is 'running emptyings.' Nor was she alone. There quickly followed the Woman of the Period, and the Man of the Period, and the Boy of the Period. For all we can remember, there may have been the Baby of the Period, and the Great-great-grandmother of the Period and the Absolute Fool of the Period. The phrase was applied to this and that and the other, until finally we had Everything of the Period. And then the fad collapsed through sheer hypertrophy.

"So will it presently be again. The New Woman is merely the successor of the Girl of the Period, or is the Girl herself grown up. But there is coming on, indeed, even now at hand, the New Man; and we shall have in time the New Everything. Then we shall realize that the whole world is moving on together. The New Woman on her bicycle to-day is no more 'new' than was Di Vernon on her horse of old. The New Woman who now seeks mastery of all the arts and sciences is no more 'advanced' than was her great-grandmother, whose modest intellectual aspirations so shocked good Mrs. Malaprop. When the world comes to see fully, as it will, that all the movements of the day which so disturb some timorous souls are nothing but uniform and harmonious social evolution toward that which is best and perfect, it will wonder how men could ever have been so foolish or so unjust as to make so vast a pother over the burlesque Frankenstein of the New Woman."

EUROPEAN SLAVE-TRADERS IN AFRICA.

EDUARD GUILLAUMET, "Delegate of the French Sudan," and Member of the French Parliament, has published in the influential journal of Paris, *La Politique Coloniale*, what will be a revelation to not a few, and throws a strange light on the propaganda of modern civilization on the Black Continent. He laments the fact that the colonial officials in Western Africa, and especially the Governor-General, will not tell the truth, which the people have a right to expect from their lips, and for this reason he has determined to speak a word for the slaves, "to demand for them, if not justice, at any rate respectable treatment." Among other things he says:

"I will first of all show in what manner the slavery practise is there carried on, and then demonstrate what is done, or rather what is *not* done in France, to abolish the African slave-trade.

"The slave-trade as carried on by the natives is, altho confessedly a part of their laws of war, *not* an absolutely inhuman custom. The prisoner of war is in actual fact not always a miserable creature because he happens to be a captive and a slave. Indeed in many cases his social condition is better than that of a free peasant in France, and good enough to make the latter jealous. Once for all, it must be emphatically stated that the evils of slavery are not to be found in the way in which it is carried on by the African natives themselves, but that these evils have set in only since we ourselves [*i.e.*, the French] have made use of this slavery as a means of enriching our own people and in the interests of our business enterprises."

Guillaumet then draws attention to previous publications of his in which are contained the documentary evidences of this extraordinary state of affairs. He in these documents shows that French officials "in accordance with the customs of the land" captured as "booty of war" the natives of the villages they had plundered, and had then, upon the return after the completion of the campaign, brought these captives to the coast and had disposed of them in payment to their servants, and had used them to buy horses and even wives with. In July, 1894, when Bossé was captured, a regular slave-hunt took place, the proceeds of which were used by the officials in payment of the costs of the campaign and the wages of the soldiers. Still further these documents testify that since, as a result of the French slave-hunts on the Senegal and the Sudan, the prospects of securing further slaves in these regions have disappeared, it has been discovered that the authorities can not secure a satisfactory number of "native sharpshooters" for the colonial army, because the "only really remunerative pay," *i.e.*, slaves and slave women, can no longer be offered as an inducement to enlist. "These are absolutely sure facts," says the narrator, "and are, for those who are willing to see them, open and revealed."

The writer's opinion of the anti-slavery crusade headed by the late Cardinal Lavigerie is not very flattering, altho he acknowledges the zeal and organizing talents of that famous prelate, who secured even the cooperation of the Institut de France and of practically the entire clergy of the Republic. These are his words:

"The Anti-Slavery Society began its crusade of suppressing slavery wherever found in Africa, securing funds and help from all parts of France. Soon it was in a condition to send its representatives into the heart of the Continent with the commission to buy liberty and freedom for those whom they found were being offered for sale as slaves. It is not my purpose here to fight this system, which to me personally is an abhorrent method of work, but only to state that the mere fact that slaves were bought free has been an inducement to the natives to capture as many as possible and bring them to the market. The Society has not at all fulfilled its proposed civilization scheme."

The writer also shows that he furnished documentary evidences of the deplorable state of affairs to persons high in authority in the state and church of France, such as Jules Simon, Cardinal Perraud, Duc de Broglie, and others, who were convinced, with the result that the members of the Institute decided upon the publication of Guillaumet's revelations in the *Bulletin de la Société antietclavagiste*.

Guillaumet is convinced that the slave-trade in Africa can be abolished only gradually, as it is based on old customs and ideas of the natives, but declares that as long as the representatives of European civilization openly or secretly make use of this custom for greed and money, the native naturally can not be convinced that it is wrong to buy and sell his brother.

The *Christliche Welt*, of Leipsic, the most widely read church paper of Germany, in commenting on these revelations, declares that the Germans are really no better in this regard than the

French, altho open slave-trading is nowhere permitted in the German colonies. It says:

"Things take place in our territories which are really just as bad. Let us recall the Leist episode and his relations to native women, whom he used as concubines; and it is generally acknowledged that he is but the sample of a whole class. It is a fact that the slave-trade is being carried on secretly from the German colonies to Pemba and Zanzibar, and that every year from 5,000 to 6,000 are transported by the traders. It is further a fact that the slave-traders make use of the East African steamship lines for their nefarious business. It is further a fact that German officials make use of slave women for the gratification of their lusts, whom they for the time being call their 'wives.' Not to be forgotten is the evil influence of buying slaves practised by the Catholic missions. Only recently it was proved that in the Bismarck Archipelago the natives engaged in a nightly slave raid for the purpose of selling their goods to the mission-stations."

The *Welt* deplores the fact that so many representatives of the Germans in Africa fail to recognize the importance of the Protestant mission work for the real civilization of the Black Continent. Not a few German travelers are positively hostile in their reports to the missionaries.

DIFFICULTIES OF POLITENESS IN HOLLAND.

IN Holland, it appears, if one is not to be considered very ill-bred, one must have at one's tongue's end a great variety of phrases and titles of address, to be applied to all persons according to their birth, station, and condition in life, and these must not be confused or displaced on penalty of being written down a boor. In what straits this places the unfortunate Hollanders may be imagined from the following, which we quote from a letter written to *L'Illustration*, Paris, March 28, by A. G. F. Sternberg. He says:

"Each grade, each function, has its distinctive sign and its special qualifications, and these titles do not exclude one another. By his birth a person has a right to certain of them, by his university degrees or his office he employs others, and it is necessary for one to be very careful about them for fear of wounding his correspondent and of showing himself to be ill bred. . . .

"Here are some of the obligatory appellations:

"A count has the right, before his title, to the epithet of *Hoog Geboren Heer* (high-born lord), a baron or a knight to that of *Hoog Welgeboren Heer* (high well-born lord). When one belongs to a good bourgeois family one is a *Wel Edel Geboren Heer* (very nobly-born lord). A simple tradesman or a government employee is a *Wel Edele Heer* (very noble lord). For young girls, noble or not, the substantive *Heer* (lord) is replaced by *Mejufrouw*, and for ladies by *Mejonnevrouw*, and we thus have the appellations used in the ordinary business transactions of everyday life.

"In public life things are more complicated. Ministers, generals, councillors of state and ambassadors have right to the title of Excellence. The members of the States-General and of high administrative departments must be called *Hoog Edel Gestrenge Heer* (high, noble, severe lord). The superior officers receive the same title. The members of the high court of justice are *Edel Hoog Archtbare Heer* (noble, high, estimable lord); lawyers and doctors of law, *Wel Edel Gestrenge Heer* (very noble, severe). The university professors bear the title of *Hoog Geleerde Heer* (highly learned lord), but if they are professors of theology we must add *Hoog Eerwarde* (highly honorable). All doctors of divinity are *Wel Eerwarde Zeer Geleerde Heer* (very honorable and very learned lord). Pastors or curates are simply 'very honorable' (*Wel Eerwarde*), but bishops are *Doorluchtige Hoogwaardige Heer* (eminent and highly honorable lord) and archbishops *Doorluchtigste Hoogwaardige Heer* (most eminent and highly honorable), but this is quite enough.

"To write to any one with by the simple title *Mijnheer* (sir) or *Mejonnevrouw* (madam) is an impertinence; but to employ these same words in French ceases to be a proof of ill breeding. Hence many persons (especially women), address their letters in French, in order not to expose themselves to the risk of committing, by an involuntary omission, a breach of etiquette."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WASHINGTON IN LOVE.

ON a May day in 1758, as he spurred upon the way to Williamsburg under orders from the frontier, George Washington rode straight upon an adventure that he had not looked for. Prof. Woodrow Wilson puts the scene and event into interesting narrative, in the May *Harper's*, as follows:

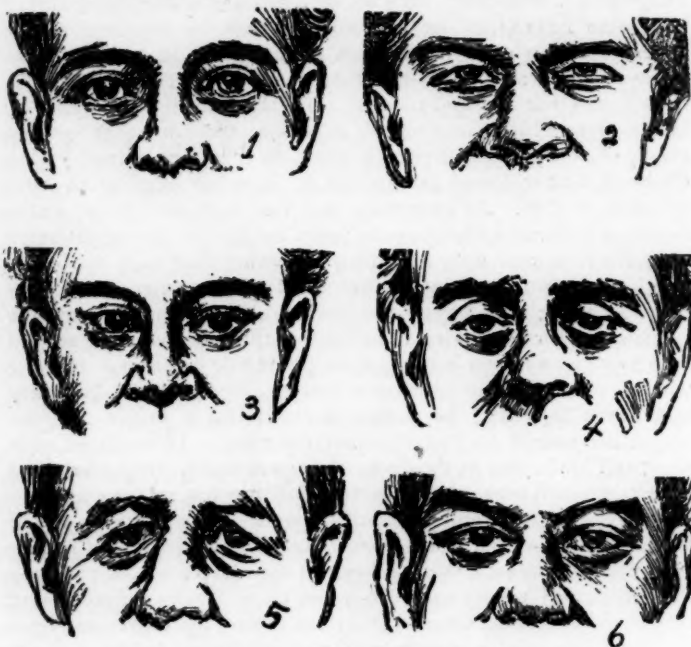
"He was within a few hours' ride of the little capital; old plantations lay close upon the way; neighborly homes began to multiply; and so striking a horseman, riding uniformed and attended, could not thereabouts go far unrecognized. He was waylaid and haled to dinner, despite excuses and protests of public business calling for dispatch. There was a charming woman to be seen at the house, his friend told him, if a good dinner was not argument enough—and his business could not spoil for an hour's stay in agreeable company. And so, of a sudden, under constraint of Virginian hospitality, he was hurried into the presence of the gracious young matron who was at once, and as if of right, to make his heart safe against further quest or adventure. Martha Custis was but six-and-twenty. To the charm of youth and beauty were added that touch of quiet sweetness and that winning grace of self-possession which come to a woman wived in her girlhood, and widowed before age or care has checked the first full tide of life. At seventeen she had married Daniel Parke Custis, a man more than twenty years her senior; but eight years of quiet love and duty as wife and mother had only made her youth the more gracious in that rural land of leisure and good neighborhood; and a year's widowhood had been but a suitable preparation for perceiving the charm of this stately young soldier who now came riding her way upon the public business. His age was her own; all the land knew him and loved him for gallantry and brave capacity; he carried himself like a prince—and he forgot his errand to linger in her company. Dinner was soon over, and his horses at the door; there was the drilled and dutiful Bishop, trained servant that he was, leading his restless and impatient charge back and forth within sight of the windows and of the terrace where his young colonel tarried, absorbed and forgetful; man and beast alike had been in the service of the unhappy Braddock, and might seem to walk there lively memorials of duty done and undertaken. But dusk came; the horses were put up; and the next morning was well advanced before the abstracted young officer got at last to his saddle, and spurred on belated to Williamsburg. His business concerned the preparations then afoot for General Forbes's advance upon Duquesne. 'I came here at this critical juncture,' said Washington to the President of the Council, 'by the express order of Sir John St. Clair, to represent in the fullest manner the posture of our affairs at Winchester'—lack of clothes, arms, and equipage, lack of money, lack of wise regulations touching rank and discipline. General Forbes had been in Philadelphia a month already, awaiting the formation of his army in Virginia; Sir John St. Clair, his quartermaster-general, had come into the province to see that proper plans were made and executed; it was necessary that matters should be pressed forward very diligently and at once; and Washington, when once at the seat of government, was not slack to urge and superintend official action. But the troublesome business once in proper course, he turned back to seek Mrs. Custis again, this time at her own home, ere he went the long distance of the frontier. The onset was made with a soldier's promptness and audacity. He returned to his post, after a delay too slight to deserve any reasonable man's remark, and yet with a pledge given and taken which made him look forward to the end of the campaign with a new longing as to the winning of a real home and an unwonted happiness.

"The campaign dragged painfully far into the drear autumn. December had come before the captured post on Ohio could be left to the keeping of Colonel Mercer and a little garrison of provincials. But when at last he was free again there was no reason why Washington should wait longer to be happy, and he was married to Martha Custis on the 6th of January, 1759. The sun shone very bright that day, and there was the fine glitter of gold, the grave show of resplendent uniforms, in the little church where the marriage was solemnized. Officers of his Majesty's service crowded there, in their gold lace and scarlet coats, to see their comrade wedded; the new Governor, Francis Fauquier, himself came, clad as befitted his rank; and the bridegroom took the sun not less gallantly than the rest, as he rode, in blue and silver and

scarlet, beside the coach and six that bore his bride homeward amidst the thronging friends of the country-side. The young soldier's love of a gallant array and a becoming ceremony was satisfied to the full, and he must have rejoiced to be so brave a horseman on such a day."

CHARACTER IN EYES.

"MUCH of the true inner nature of an individual," says Mr. Charles Todd Parks, in the New York *Herald*, "may be interpreted by the shape as well as by the brightness and intelligence of the eye." Here are some of the recognized types. As each reveals some definite traits of character, that may be easily detected at a glance, it is interesting to observe their meaning:



(By courtesy of *The Phrenological Journal*.)

"When the eye is straight, finely arched, clear, transparent, and modest, as in Fig. 1, there will be found a frank, hopeful disposition, one easily approached, sensitive, and responsive. Such persons are not disposed to be suspicious. They feel and express emotions readily, take an optimistic view of life, and act quickly upon impulse. Sincere and ardent in their attachments, they are more sentimental than passionate. Height of the opening lids discloses nobility and elevation of character, but, when excessive, there is lack of tact and too much frankness for one's own welfare.

"Persons with narrow, half-closed eyes, like Fig. 2, are more reserved, watchful of danger, and cautious. There is a self-restraint in their expressions, and a disposition to conceal facts, disguise their sentiments and dissimulate their feelings in relation to all matter in which they are concerned. It is, therefore, very difficult to draw a secret from them, or to get a direct answer to a question. They are sinuous.

"Oblique eyes, such as Fig. 3, are keen-witted, tactful, quick, artful, and alert.

"The drooping of the upper lids (see Fig. 4) is a sign of strong desire to accumulate property of all sorts. Persons with this eye will not only work hard to acquire money, but also knowledge, position, power, and friends. They are often talented and are usually fond of games of chance.

"Fig. 5 shows a type of eye that has sharp practical judgment, capable of guarding against the designs of others and turning everything to the best advantage.

"Such eyes as in Fig. 6 bespeak a mind that easily becomes excited, loses its self-control, and is quickly moved to anger."

Music and Baldness.—"An English statistician," says *L'Illustration Européenne*, "has been engaged in an original task, that of studying the influence of music on the hair.

"The author establishes, in the first place, that the proportion

of bald persons is 11 per cent. for the liberal professions in general, with the exception of physicians, who appear to hold the record for baldness with the figure of 30 per cent.

"Musical composers do not form an exception to the rule, and baldness is as frequent among them as in the other professions. But it is with instrumental performers that the influence of music makes itself felt, and in two opposing directions.

"Thus, while stringed instruments prevent and check the falling out of the hair, brass instruments have the most injurious effects upon it.

"The piano and the violin, especially the piano, have an undoubted preserving influence. If we once glance at a collection of photographs of pianists, with their bushy hair, we shall not dare to express a doubt about the deductions of the English statistician.

"The violoncello, the harp, and the double-bass participate in the hair-preserving qualities of the piano. But the hautboy, the clarinet, and the flute have only a very feeble effect! Their action is not more than a fiftieth part as strong.

"On the contrary, the brass instruments have results that are deplorable; . . . the cornet-a-piston and the French horn act with surprising surety and rapidity; but the trombone is the depilatory instrument *par excellence*, it will clear the hair from one's head in five years!

"This is what the author calls 'baldness of the fanfares,' which rages with special violence among regimental bands.

"Why does the trombone hasten the fall of the hair, while the piano arrests it? Statistics do not inform us, and besides that is not their business. But it is easy to prove these musico-capillary affirmations every evening at the theater, by observing the heads of the musicians in the orchestra."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

Age of Husband and Wife.—"A friend writes for our opinion as to whether the husband should not be considerably older than the wife. We think it depends very much on the temperament, or physical constitution of the parties as well as their mental qualities. If a man is a model of masculinity, and possessed of first-class health and virility, he ought to retain his ambition, his enjoyment of life, and his appreciation of all that makes the world attractive to a young or middle-aged man, far beyond the traditional age of threescore and ten. Consequently such a man ought to marry a woman considerably younger than himself, provided, of course, that she is companionable, and if she does not happen to be exceptionally strong herself. However, if the woman be remarkably vigorous, and the man not of a very long-lived or powerful stock, there would be less objection to an approximate equality of age. In other words, if both parties are as nearly perfect as human beings are likely ever to be, a difference of five or ten years would probably be best. But if the woman is of that constitution which becomes 'fat at forty,' and loses her physical attractiveness, unless she marries a man much like herself, it would be better to extend the difference in years to twelve or fifteen, or even more. Whatever we may think or approve in the matter, it remains a fact that men admire youth, beauty, health, and vivacity in women, while the gentler sex are attracted chiefly by mental and physical strength. As men retain their strength, especially of mind, much longer, on an average, than women retain their beauty, it is clear that there should generally be a considerable difference in the ages, varying, as we have said, according to the relative condition of the parties."—*The Phrenological Journal.*

AN Englishwoman, whose husband was in India recently, called in the aid of her family physician. The doctor accused her of immoral conduct, and the lady promptly prosecuted for slander. The jury awarded her \$60,000 damages, not only to compensate her, but also to punish the doctor for revealing a professional secret. *The Medical Press*, London, says: "It has always been regarded as a sacred and inviolable right appertaining to the profession of medicine, that the trust reposed in its members by those who consult them for their physical ills should never be betrayed. And it is one of its proudest traditions that this principle of honor should require no written law for its enforcement, and no judicial declaration to protect those who are guided by it. . . . Each medical breast is the repository of family secrets unknown to any other. To the 'doctor' alone is that dreaded 'skeleton in the cupboard' revealed, and rare indeed must be the occasions, and most exceptional the circumstances, that can justify a betrayal of that knowledge, even to a wife, much less to any interested or inquisitive outsider."

BUSINESS SITUATION.

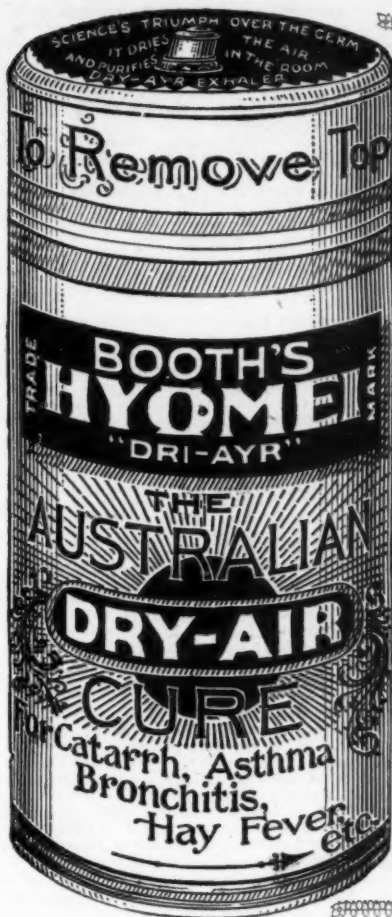
The General State of Trade.

Relatively unfavorable features of the general business situation this week include unseasonably cool weather, which at some centers has checked trade; continued surplus stocks of cottons, which depress prices; dulness and idle machinery in the woolen goods industry; a falling-off in demand for lumber at St. Louis and Minneapolis, and continued dulness in iron and steel, where, altho mills and furnaces are fairly active, there is a continued absence of new orders. Chicago jobbers report the week's business in light seasonable fabrics as only fairly satisfactory, transactions in clothing smaller than in the like period a year ago, and the leather market weaker, owing to lack of demand, but light hardware relatively more active.

The favorable side of the picture includes a marked increase in the total volume of bank clearings, a longer list of staples for which quotations have advanced, almost uniform and unexpectedly improved prospects for cereal and cotton crops, and a reflection of the more confident feeling as to the autumn's business in an improved demand throughout the territory supplied by St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Duluth, and Sioux Falls. The least favorable crop report is from Oklahoma, where wheat is in need of rain, and from Washington, where, as per Seattle advices, wheat has been hurt by too much wet weather. In Texas further improvement in the cotton crop outlook has stimulated jobbers to send out travelers to anticipate demand, and the region of which Chattanooga is the commercial center is enjoying the results of an extension of the truck-gardening industry. Savannah's rosin and turpentine receipts and shipments are quite active. The outlook for wheat in eastern Oregon is bright, and the like is true of Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa.

More important staples for which prices are higher are cotton, print-cloths, Indian corn, oats, lard, and coffee, while quotations for pork, coal, and lumber remain practically unchanged. A sale of wool is reported at Boston at "lowest price on record," from which it may be inferred bottom has been reached. Wheat flour, wheat, sugar, petroleum, Bessemer pig and foundry irons have likewise been shaded in price.

Revival of demand for lumber from China, South America, and South Africa is showing itself



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July 31, 1895.

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Pocket Inhaler Outfit, Complete in Sealed Case (see cut), by Mail, \$1.00, to any part of the United States; consisting of pocket inhaler, made of deodorized hard rubber (beautifully polished), a bottle of Hyomei, a dropper, and full directions for using. If you are still skeptical, send your address; my pamphlet shall prove that Hyomei does cure.

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up and down the Pacific coast, San Francisco feeling the demand this week. The arrival of the first cargo of tea of the season is awaited at Tacoma, where the cotton and flour are ready to supply a return cargo.

The evident though gradual increase in the volume of business during the past two or three weeks shows itself in an enlarged volume of bank clearings. The aggregate for the week is \$1,135,000,000, or 15 per cent. more than last week, but only seven-tenths of 1 per cent. larger than in the first week of May, 1895, altho 25 per cent. larger than in the corresponding week of 1894. As compared with the like period in 1893, the week's total clearings show a decrease of 17 per cent., and as contrasted with 1892 a decrease of 7.8 per cent.

Stocks of wheat and flour afloat for and in Europe May 1 were equivalent to 47,774,000 bushels, the smallest total so held and in transit on a like date for eight years, 23,664,000 bushels less than one year ago. The world's available wheat stocks May 1—131,316,000 bushels—were almost as small as on July 1, 1895, and much smaller than on July 1, 1894 or 1893. The present prospect is for a smaller quantity of available wheat to be carried over on July 1 next than for years.

Exports of wheat (wheat flour included as wheat) from both coasts of the United States this week amount to 1,882,000 bushels, compared with 1,260,000 bushels last week, 2,805,000 bushels in the first week of May, 1895, 2,815,000 bushels in the corresponding week of 1894, and 2,712,000 bushels in the like week of 1893.

There are 267 business failures reported throughout the United States this week, as compared with 254 last week, 224 in the week one year ago, 198 in the first week of May, 1894, and as compared with 219 in the corresponding week of 1893.—*Bradstreet's, May 9.*

CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess-Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Solution of Problems.

No. 137.

- | | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------|
| B-B 2 | Q x P ch | Kt-K 3, mate |
| 1. K-Q 5 | 2. K x P, must | 3. Q-Q 5, mate |
| | Q-Q 6 ch | Q-Q 5, mate |
| 1. R x B | 2. K x P or -K 5 | |

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------------|
| | Q-Q 8! | Kt-B 3, mate |
| 1. R-Q 6 | 2. R x Q | 3. Q-Q 5, mate |
| | K-K 5 | |

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; Prof. C. Hertzberg, Polytechnic, Brooklyn; the Revs. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa., and A. S. Rachal, Lynchburg, Va.; N. Hald, Dannebrog, Neb.; Miss Marian E. Phillips, Cleveland; A. J. Burnett, Grand Rapids; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; C. P. Putney, Independence, Ia.; Louis Zeitler, Memphis; J. N. Chandler, Des Moines; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.

No. 138.

- | | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| R-Q 7 | R-B 7 | B-B 5, mate |
| 1. P-Kt 6 | 2. K x P, must | 3. Q-B 7, mate |
| | P x P dis ch | |
| 1. R-Kt 6 | 2. R-R 6, must | 3. R-Q 3, mate |
| | Q-B 7 ch | |
| 1. K-Kt 6 | 2. K-B 6, must | |

Correctly solved by M. W. H., Prof. Hertzberg, Prof. Schmitt, the Revs. I. W. Bieber, and A. S. Rachal, C. P. Putney, Miss Phillips, A. J. Burnett, F. S. Ferguson, W. R. Coumbe, Louis Zeitler, F. H. Johnston, and Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia.; E. A. Cook, Madison, Wis.; Charles Porter, Lambert, Minn.

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Sicilian Defense.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| MASTER W. NAPIER. | RUTH. |
| White. | Black. |
| 1. P-K 4 | P-Q B 4 |
| 2. Kt-K B 3 | Kt-Q B 3 |
| 3. Kt-B 3 | P-K Kt 3 |
| 4. P-Q 4 | P x P |
| 5. Kt x P | B-Kt 2 |
| 6. B-K 3 | P-K 4 |
| 7. Kt (Q 4)-Kt 5 | B-K B sq |
| 8. Kt-Q 5 | B-Kt 5 ch |
| 9. P-Q B 3 | B-R 4 |
| 10. P-Q Kt 4 | K Kt-K 2 |
| 11. Kt-B 6 ch | Resigns. |

Where did Black make his blunder?

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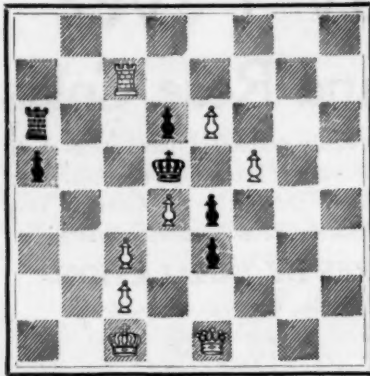
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Problem 143.

Black—Six Pieces.

K on Q 4; R on Q R 3; Ps on K 5 and 6, Q 3, Q R 4.



White—Eight Pieces.

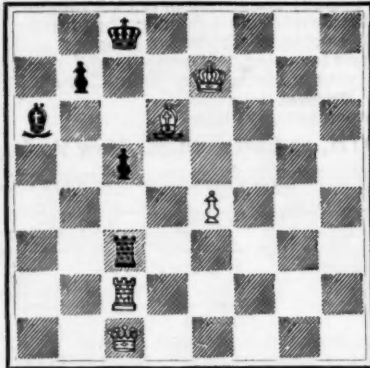
K on Q B sq; Q on K sq; R on Q B 7; Ps on K 6, K B 5, Q 4, Q B 2 and 3.

White mates in three moves.

Problem 144.

Black—Five Pieces.

K on Q B sq; B on Q R 3; R on Q B 6; Ps on Q B 4, Q Kt 2.



White—Five Pieces.

K on K 7; Q on Q B sq; B on Q 6; R on Q B 2; P on K 4.

White mates in two moves.

Chess-Nuts.

Steinitz won the series with Schiffers, at Rostow-on-the-Don, Russia. The score: Steinitz, 6; Schiffers, 4; Drawn, 1.

The London Field, in commenting upon the late Cable Match between England and America, says: "The fact remains, and no glossing over will alter it, that the losers have been outplayed by their American opponents in the end game, and Burn and Blackburne in the opening."

St. Petersburg Games.

SIXTH ROUND—SECOND GAME.

Queen's Pawn Opening.

LASKER. White.	TSCHEGORIN. Black.	LASKER. White.	TSCHEGORIN. Black.
1 P-Q 4	P-Q 4	29 P x P	P x P
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt-K B 3	30 R-B 3	R-Q B sq
3 B-B 4	Q Kt-Q 2	31 R(Ksq-K 3	R-B 5
4 Kt-B 3	P-B 3	32 R x R	P x R
5 P-K 3	P-K 3	33 Q-Kt 4	Q-Q sq (g)
6 B-Q 3	B-Kt 5	34 Q x P	Q-R 4 (h)
7 Castles	P-K R 3 (a)	35 R-B 3	K-R 2
8 Q-K 2	Castles	36 P-K R 3	B-K sq
9 P-K 4 (b)	B x Kt	37 P-R 3	B-Kt 4
10 P x B	P x P	38 Q-Kt 4	Q-R 3 (i)
11 B x P	Kt x B	39 R-B 7	B-B 3 K
12 Q x Kt	Kt-B 3	40 P-Q B 4	B x P
13 Q-Q 3	Kt-Q 4	41 P-Kt 3 (b)	Q-Kt 3
14 B-Q 2	Kt-K 2	42 K-B 2	B-K 5
15 K R-Ksq	Kt-Kt 3	43 Q x Q	P x Q
16 Kt-K 5 (c)	Kt x Kt	44 P-Q R 4	P-R 4
17 R x Kt	P-B 3	45 P-R 4	R-Kt 5
18 R-K 3	P-K B 4	46 K-K 3	B-Kt 7
19 R-Kt 3	Q-R 5	47 K-Q 3	K-Kt sq
20 R-R 3	Q-K 2	48 K-B 3	K-B sq
21 R-K sq	R-B 3	49 B-B 4	K-K sq
22 B-B 4	B-Q 2	50 R-R 7	P-K Kt 4
23 R-Kt 3	B-K sq	51 B x P	R x P ch
24 P-B 4 (d)	Q-Q 2	52 K-Kt 4	R x B (m)
25 R(Kt3)-K3	P-Q Kt 3	53 P x R	P-R 5
26 B-K 5 (e)	R-Kt 3	54 R-K R 7	P-R 6
27 P-K B 3 (f)	B-B 2	55 P-Kt 6 (n)	Resigns.
28 Q-R 3	P-Kt 4		

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Notes by Emil Kemeny.

(a) This is evidently loss of time. Black should have played B x Kt, followed by Kt-K 5.

(b) This gives White the preferable game, for he obtains the open K file. Black's game is compromised on account of the closed-in Q B.

(c) White skilfully prevents Black from advancing the K P, which would greatly relieve his game.

(d) White through his King's side attack has forced Black's K R and B in a somewhat inferior position. More he could not gain at present. He therefore shifts the attack to the Queen's wing, where it is more promising.

(e) P-Q 5 looks quite tempting, yet it would have relieved Black's game. Of course, Black would not capture that Pawn with K P, but would play B-B 2.

(f) To prevent Black from R-Kt 5, thus bringing the Rook into action.

(g) There was no way to save the Q B P, and for that reason Black plays well in giving it up at once. The Bishops being of different colors, the game might terminate in a draw, if Black would be able to force his game.

(h) Q-Kt 4 would hardly be any better on account of White's reply R-K 2.

(i) Black can not exchange Queens, for he would lose, notwithstanding the Bishops are of different colors. Black's Rook is badly closed in, and there is no way to bring that important piece into play.

(k) Ingenious play threatening B x P as well as R x P ch followed by Q-K 7 ch securing at least a draw for Black. White's correct reply P-Q B 4 of course prevents such play.

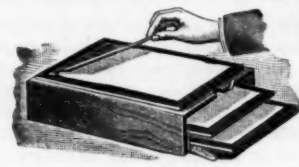
(l) K-B 2 followed by Q-B 8 it seems could have been played with impunity. Black's only defense would be B-K 5, R x P ch followed by K-Kt 3. The line of play adopted is more conservative.

(m) R-Kt 5 would have prolonged the fight. It seems, however, that the game was beyond repair already. White threatened R-K 7 ch, followed by the capture of the K P and Q Kt P.

(n) Black, in the present position, resigned. Of course, he could have resisted still, but the game was lost, nevertheless. Black was obliged to play K-Kt sq, in order to stop R-R 8, followed by P-Kt 7 and P-Kt 8. White would continue, K-B 3, K-Q 2, etc., in order to stop the Black Pawns, and he would win quite easily with his Pawns on the Queen's wing.

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Ruy Lopez.

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1 P-K 4	P-K 4	26 R-K 3	R-Q 7
2 K-Kt-B 3	Q-Kt-B 3	27 R-B 3	P-B 4
3 B-Kt 5	Kt-B 3	28 R-Kt 3	R x R P (g)
4 Castles	Kt x P	29 R x P	P-Kt 3
5 P-Q 4	Kt-Q 3	30 P-B 3	P-R 4
6 B-Kt 5 (a)	B-K 2 (b)	31 R-Kt 5 (h)	P x P ch
7 B x Kt	B x B	32 K-Kt 3	R-Q 7
8 P x P	Q P x B	33 P-R 4	P-B 5
9 Kt x B	Q x Kt	34 R x P	R x P
10 P x Kt	P x P (c)	35 R-Q B 5	R-Q R 7
11 R-K sq ch	B-K 3 (d)	36 R x P	P-Kt 4
12 Q x P	R-Q sq	37 P x P ch	K x P
13 Q-R 3	P-Q R 3	38 R x P ch	K-B 4
14 Kt-B 3	Q-K 2	39 K-B 3	R-R 6
15 Q x Q ch (e)	K x Q	40 R-Q B 4	K-K 4
16 Kt-K 4	P-Q Kt 3	41 K-K 3	K-Q 4
17 Kt-Kt 5	R-Q 4 (f)	42 K-Q 3	P-K 4
18 Kt x B	P x Kt	43 R-Q Kt 4	R-R 7
19 R-K 2	K R-Q sq	44 P-B 4 ch	K-B 3
20 Q R-K sq	K R-Q 3	45 K-B 3	P-K 5
21 P-K B 4	R-Q 7	46 K-Kt 3	R-R 8
22 K-B 2	K-B 3	47 R-Kt 5	P-K 6
23 K-B 3	R x R	48 K-K 5	R-Kt 8 ch
24 R x R	R-Q 4	49 K-B 3 (i)	R-Q R 8
25 P-K Kt 4	P-Q R 4	50 R x P	Drawn.

Notes from The London Field.

(a) A new continuation which has the merit of giving Black, if a less careful player than Lasker, plenty of opportunity to fall upon inferior variations.

(b) If 6 ... P-B 3, intending to retain the P plus, then 7 B x Kt, Q P x B; 8 P x P, P x B; 9 P x Kt, B x P; 10 R-K ch, with a fine attack.

(c) A better position could have been obtained by 10 ... B-K 3, and if 11 P x P, then 11 ... Q-B 5, followed by 12 Q x P, castles. If 11 P-K B 4, then 11 ... Q-B 4 ch, and Q x Q P.

(d) Perhaps if Lasker had had to play for more than a draw, he might have tried to keep the Pawn with 11 ... K-Q 2; 12 Kt-B 3 (threatening Q x P ch and Kt-K 4 ch), Q-Kt 3; 13 Q-Q 4, K-B 2, etc. Of course, he would have been subjected to a harassing attack for the Pawn.

(e) The exchange of Queens is best, the Queen having no good place to retire, and if so, Black would castle in safety.

(f) He could also have moved 16 ... R-Q 3 if he intended to avoid an isolated P.

(g) Or 28 ... R-Q 3; 29 K-K 4, R-Q 5 ch; 30 K-K 3, R-Q 3, etc. But the text move gives a faint chance even of a win.

(h) If 31 P-Kt 5 ch, then 31 ... K-B 5; 32 R-Kt 5, R-R 6 ch; 33 K-Kt 2, K-Kt 5, with a better game.

(i) If 49 K-R 5, then 49 ... R-Kt 6, and draws. The extra Pawn is not sufficient to win.

Current Events.

Monday, May 4.

In the Senate the Populists combine with the Democrats and will prevent the seating of Dupont, who claims election to the Senate from Delaware. . . . The President nominates Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Lyster to be Colonel in the army. . . . The Milwaukee street-railway employees strike for an increase in wages; every line in the city is tied up. . . . The swarm of prospectors in Alaska are finding encouragement in the indications of gold in the Cook's Inlet region. . . . Many persons lose their lives by an explosion in Cincinnati, supposed to be caused by gas.

Cuban insurgents east of Havana are concentrating in Puerto Principe province and promise an aggressive movement. . . . Cape Colony's Governor denies that he knew Dr. Jameson contemplated the Transvaal raid. . . . General Baldissera, the Italian commander-in-chief, defeats a large force of Abyssinians and raises the siege of Adigrat. . . . An Anarchist plot to murder King Humbert is discovered in Naples. . . . In the municipal elections in France the Socialists are successful in a majority of the large towns.

Tuesday, May 5.

In the House the motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the Naval Appropriation bill, reducing the number of battle-ships from four to two, is defeated by a vote of 141 to 81. . . . The California Republican State convention meets at Sacramento. . . . The Baltimore Board of Trade adopts a resolution declaring for "sound money and the maintenance of the gold standard."

Colonel North, the "Nitrate King," dies in his office in London. . . . President Krüger opens the Volksraad; in his address only casual references are made to the recent Transvaal troubles. . . . Cecil Rhodes resigns as managing director of the chartered company.

Wednesday, May 6.

The House passes a concurrent resolution providing for adjournment on May 18. . . . The California Republican State convention instructs its delegates to the national convention in favor of McKinley. The platform declares for free and unlimited coinage of silver. . . . The Southern Baptist Editorial Association begins its annual meeting in Chattanooga, Tenn. . . . The President issues an order placing 30,000 more government employees under civil service rules. . . . Pennsylvania State Prohibition convention is held in Philadelphia.

It is announced from Johannesburg that the convicted members of the Reform Committee will be released on payment of nominal fines.

Thursday, May 7.

The Senate passes the Peffer bond-sale investigation resolution by a vote of 51 to 6. . . . The Republican State conventions of Indiana and Michigan instruct their delegates to the national convention for McKinley, and adopt platforms for protection and sound money. . . . Democratic State conventions are held in New Jersey, at Trenton, and Tennessee, at Nashville. . . . Prohibition State conventions are held in Missouri, at Sedalia, and in Arkansas at Little Rock.

Clara Barton reports that the Red Cross is the only organized body of medical relief in all Asia Minor. . . . The Italian forces withdraw from Adegrat, Abyssinia.

Friday, May 8.

The House passes a resolution giving clerks to members all the year round. . . . The President further amends the civil service rules by an order bringing into service the classified service of the Interstate Commerce Commission. . . . The North Atlantic squadron changes its anchorage from Hampton Roads to New York Harbor. . . . J. W. Hildreth, the seventeen-year old train-wrecker, is sentenced to life imprisonment, and Plato and Hibbard to forty years each.

Spaniards report another victory over Maceo in Pinar del Rio. . . . The five alleged filibusters captured on the *Competitor* are tried in Havana; judgment is reserved.

Saturday, May 9.

The Nevada Republican State convention, in Virginia City, elects its delegates to the national convention. The platform favors the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and tariff protection. . . . The cruiser *Brooklyn* sails from the Cramps' shipyard for her builders' trial trip. . . . Colonel F. K. Hain, manager of the New York elevated railroads, is run over and killed at Clifton Springs, N. Y.

The five prisoners captured on the alleged filibustering schooner *Competitor* are sentenced to death in Havana. . . . Joseph Chamberlain's speech is criticized in London as throwing no new light on the Transvaal situation. . . . Prime Minister di Rudini announces in the Italian Chamber that General Baratieri would be tried in Massowah for the disaster at Adowa.

Sunday, May 10.

A fire in the lumber district of Ashland, Wis., causes the loss of three lives and the destruction of property worth \$500,000. . . . The steamer *Laurada* succeeds in getting to sea from New York, with a filibustering expedition for Cuba. . . . A dispatch from Oaxaca, Mexico, says that the Federal troops are killing the Indians who rebelled against the State authorities. . . . Dispatches from Tombstone, Ariz., states that a band of renegade Apaches, under the leadership of "The Kid," are on the warpath near the Mexican line.

Joaquin Bernardo Calve, charge d'affaires at Costa Rica, is appointed Minister Resident at Washington. . . . Emperor William celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary of the treaty of Frankfurt by paying high tribute to Bismarck.

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New Year,	Arbor Day,	Flag-Raising Day,	Labor Day
Lincoln's Birthday,	Decoration Day,	Fourth of July,	Forefathers' Day.
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